

## Police given go ahead to use full force of law against violent pickets

Violent scenes outside Hadfields, the Sheffield private steel works, were condemned by the Prime Minister in the Commons yesterday. She said enforcement of the law must be in the hands of the police. Sir Michael Havers, QC,

Attorney General, said police enjoyed greater powers than they had used. Hadfields' management has been told by police after violence last Thursday that they would not be able to protect people and plant if pickets were increased. All

leave was cancelled for Kent police because of the expected arrival of 2,000 pickets outside the Sheerness Steel plant today [Page 2]. The Government introduced proposals yesterday to curb union immunities in secondary industrial action.

## Neutrality plan for Afghanistan by EEC

From Michael Hornsby, Rome, Feb 19  
An important initiative aimed at halting the deterioration in East-West relations, the EEC today proposed the neutralization of Afghanistan under international guarantee in return for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from that country.

The six-point proposal, which was sponsored by Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, was unanimously approved at a meeting here of EEC foreign ministers.

The Nine asserted their belief that the crisis in Afghanistan could be overcome constructively through an arrangement which allowed a neutral Afghanistan to be outside competition among the powers.

The foreign ministers also declared that the aim of their proposal would be to restore a situation in Afghanistan in line with the resolution adopted by a large majority of the General Assembly of the United Nations last month.

The United Nations resolution appealed to all states to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and non-aligned character of Afghanistan and to refrain from any interference in the internal affairs of that country.

It was possible that Moscow had not fully appreciated all the implications of its action in invading Afghanistan, Signor Ruffini added.

At a separate press conference, Lord Carrington argued that if Moscow was sincere in claiming that its occupation of Afghanistan had been necessary to preserve Russian security, then "neutrality would meet their concern and enable the Soviet Union to withdraw its troops from that country."

Lord Carrington made the point that after the Afghan wars of the last century Afghanistan had acquired an "unwritten neutrality" guaranteed by Russia and Britain. It was the disruption of that status after Indian independence in 1947 that was in a sense responsible for the present situation.

The Carrington initiative, which was first put in confidence to British EEC partners last week, was warmly endorsed by other foreign ministers.

The United States has been kept informed of the EEC's thinking, and it was noted here that President Carter himself made a brief reference to the initiative in a press conference in Washington last week to the "neutralization" of Afghanistan.

In effect, the EEC has decided to test the theory that the Soviet action in Afghanistan may have been motivated more by concern that Islamic nationalism might infect Russia's own Muslim minorities than by a desire to embark on a new and aggressively expansionist phase of foreign policy.

It was also noted that the Russians might be attracted by the neutrality proposal as a graceful way out of the Afghan quagmire.



Winning smile: Mr. Pierre Trudeau after the news that Canadian voters had restored him to power. He will take over as Prime Minister again after only nine months in opposition. His Liberal Party won a clear majority over the Conservatives. Report, page 6

## Reagan joke drops him in the duck soup

From David Cross, Washington, Feb 19  
Mr. Ronald Reagan, the former Governor of California and leading Republican contender for the Presidency, wishes he had never heard the one about the duck. It has really put him in the soup.

Campaigning in New Hampshire at the weekend, Mr. Reagan made the mistake of replying to reporters with a joke which had much amused Senator Gordon Humphrey of that state when Mr. Reagan told it earlier in the day. It went as follows:

"How do you tell the Polish one at a cocktail?" Answer: "He's the one with the duck." "How do you tell the Italian?" Answer: "He's the one who bets on the duck." "How do you tell the Mafia is there?" Answer: "The duck wins."

Mr. Reagan apparently laughed heartily, echoed by the reporters accompanying him on his campaign tour. But one of Mr. Reagan's advisers was more perceptive. "There goes Connecticut," he said grimly, referring to a New England state which has a governor of Italian descent, Mrs. Ella Grasso, and a large ethnic population.

The aide may well be proved right. As soon as the smile had disappeared from Mr. Reagan's face, the joke began to assume the proportions of a monumental political safe. No joke improves with retelling, and this is what Mr. Reagan has discovered as it has been featured again and again on television and in the newspapers. One of the six co-chairmen of examination boards in New Hampshire, which holds its crucial primary next week, has even said he is no longer sure he can continue to support the former governor.

Mr. Reagan has called for against the press and has been trying to repair some of the damage by explaining why he told the joke in the first place. Explaining why he had told the joke, he said he had given it as an example of a "kind of joke to end all jokes, because it did not stop just one ethnic group, and as a matter of fact, every group in the story came out on top."

This reasoning left his listeners somewhat bemused, as it failed to explain why Mr. Reagan had laughed so heartily. Mrs. Reagan also committed a gaffe while snowbound in Chicago on her way to campaign with her husband in New England. In a telephone link up with her husband, she said she wished Mr. Reagan could "see all these beautiful white people (pause) ... beautiful black and white people."

She told a reporter later: "I'm so sorry. I didn't mean it. She had been referring to the colour of the snow on the people, she explained. Quack, quack."

## Gas men reject 17 pc pay offer

Delegates representing 39,000 gas workers yesterday rejected a 17 per cent pay offer recommended by General and Municipal Workers' Union negotiators, who will now meet the British Gas Corporation on February 28 to try to get the offer raised.

## New test for judges on unions' immunity

By Our Political Editor

The much discussed government proposals to curb union immunities in secondary industrial action, published yesterday, introduce into the civil law for the first time a specific statutory test requiring that such action be "not principally for some extraneous motive".

Judges will, in fact, have to be satisfied on this and another test before any secondary action could be considered for immunity from civil suit: that (a) the action be "reasonably capable of furthering the trade dispute in question"; and (b) that it be "predominantly" in pursuit of that dispute and "not principally" for the extraneous motive.

As expected, the consultative document published yesterday by Mr. James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, after arduous argument with his Cabinet colleagues, proposes limiting union immunities in secondary action to first suppliers or customers of an employer in dispute.

Sympathy action against "suppliers' suppliers", if it sought to induce a breach of, or interfere with, any commercial contract, threatened or actual, would no longer benefit from immunity under the law. Employers could seek redress in the courts.

But it turned out not to be enough for the Government simply to narrow present immunities, which allow a virtual free-for-all under which a union is protected from being sued provided it can claim to be furthering a trade dispute.

Instead, as Mr. Prior tried explaining to a somewhat sceptical gathering at a news conference, the Government felt it had to introduce the test of extraneous motive.

Asked if this would forbid a political strike, Mr. Prior first answered that he did not know what the definition of a political strike was. "But if it were a purely political strike, yes, it could be extraneous."

The Government, however, would not go to court to stop a strike; the proposal concerned only attempts to induce breach of commercial contract.

Mr. Prior stood in front of a large display of the immunity law where the immunity line was

## Existing powers are adequate to cope with trouble, MPs told

By Fred Emery, Political Editor

Signalling a clear green light to chief police officers to act more energetically against criminal lawbreaking by pickets, a red light to wayward union officials, Sir Michael Havers, QC, Attorney General, yesterday issued a statement purporting to clarify existing criminal law in the wake of the violence last week outside Hadfields in Sheffield.

However, Sir Michael, in addressing the Commons, gave his clear interpretation that the police enjoy greater powers than they have been prepared to exercise.

Police could not only limit the numbers of pickets in any one place where they had reasonable cause to fear disorder; he went on: "In my view this includes, in the appropriate case, not only asking some of those present to leave but also preventing others from joining the pickets."

In clarifying the obvious point that pickets have no right to cause obstruction he also declared: "Pickets have no right to think anyone is otherwise preventing access to the place they are picketing."

"If pickets by sheer numbers seek to stop people going to work or delivering or collecting goods they are not protected by the law since the purpose is to obstruct rather than persuade."

The Attorney General acted in the guise of reaffirming the law in order to remove doubts. Even if his words have political effect, it is left to Mr. William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, to give formal advice, when he meets representatives of chief police officers tomorrow at their request.

According to Sir Michael they are to give their views on the difficulties they are having in enforcing the law.

Sir Michael would not be drawn on what had happened at Hadfields, but Mrs. Margaret Thatcher had no qualms. At question time the Prime Minister said of what she had seen on television: "I cannot condemn them enough."

"There were no relation to peaceful picketing, which is the only kind of picketing protected by the law. When we get scenes like that, enforcement of the law, and it seemed a criminal matter and not a civil matter, must be in the hands of the police. We should give the police our full backing in their difficulties."

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being made? Mr. James Callaghan, leader of the Opposition, said there were no doubts on the Labour side, unless it be that the Government ought to settle the steel strike and so remove the cause of picketing.

He wondered whether the clearing up was because of remarks by Lord Hailsham, of St. Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, or perhaps to placate rampant right-wingers on the Tory backbenches.

Sir Michael demurred. There were doubts he said, in newspapers, among others, but MPs were not given the full story of what the Government intends.

The Government's main point was to get over to the doubters, including chief police officers and union leaders, that the present criminal law is enough.

That means, for instance, that the police can stop busloads of flying pickets bound for Sheerness if they believe that the numbers of pickets there threatened disorder.

They will not be arrested, simply asked not to go: if they persisted deliberately in defying the police, they could be arrested for obstructing an officer in the course of his duty.

Leading article, page 13

complaint that there were too few police to protect people

One statement told of police stopping a busload of workers so that they had a walk of 500 yards to the factory gates.

Another statement said one policeman only on duty at that end of Vulcan Road. Our party consisted of about 35 to 40 people; we were immediately called various names, spat at, and forced off the causeway by the police. We were told to contain ourselves, not to shout or sing. There were no police to protect us. The women in the party were very brave to keep going in the circumstances, and the men kept their patience in the very explosive situation."

Another statement spoke of a "corridor of hatred" and said:

In a formal statement last night, the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire, Mr. J. H. Brownlow, confirmed that he had received the documents "detailing incidents of intimidation by pickets against Hadfield employees", and said the matter would be investigated.

## Israel in diplomatic drive to block European recognition of Palestine

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Feb 19

The Israeli Government is planning to launch a diplomatic offensive in Europe designed to counter what are regarded as British-led moves to secure an amendment to resolution 242 of the United Nations Security Council which would recognize the Palestinian right to self-determination.

It is understood that every Israeli ambassador based in Europe has been summoned to a special meeting in London on Thursday at which they will be briefed on the Government's undisclosed tactics for undermining the new European initiative on the Middle East problem.

The meeting will be chaired by Mr. Yosef Cichanover, the influential Director-General of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, and Mr. Moshe Sasson, ambassador with special responsibility for Europe.

It is seen as important to the campaign to prevent any change in the wording of the resolution which was drawn up after the six-day war in 1967.

The summoning of the ambassadors is seen as a reflection of growing Israeli concern that the EEC countries are gradually moving towards collective recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization and its future involvement in a radically restructured Middle East peace process.

This fear was heightened last week by a joint declaration

from the Foreign Ministers of the Arab Republic of Bahrain favouring the Palestinian peoples' right to "an independent state in Palestine."

The announcement drew a strong Israeli protest to Dublin. Another diplomatic protest was registered yesterday when Sir John Mason, the outgoing British ambassador to Israel, held his final meeting with Mr. Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister. According to a reliable account, Mr. Begin used the occasion to launch a furious attack on the British Government's Middle East policy.

According to Israeli officials, Mr. Begin accused the British of adopting a policy with "a waft of appeasement" about it. Mr. Begin's attack was the bitterest he has launched against Britain since Mrs. Thatcher took office.

In reply, Sir John was said to have explained that Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, felt that the Camp David talks were not sufficient for a solution of the Palestinian problem. He explained that the proposed changes to resolution 242 would recognize Palestinian political rights and involve the recognition of the PLO as representing the Palestinians.

For its part, the PLO would be required to accept the amended resolution meaning that for the first time they would publicly have to recognize Israel's rights as a state.

Mayors meet envoy, page 6

## Case for the Shroud strengthens

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The first reliable account of the recent tests performed on the Shroud of Turin has substantially strengthened the case for its authenticity.

It is traditionally supposed to be the linen burial cloth in which the body of Jesus Christ was wrapped after the Crucifixion, and its carries an extraordinary image which fits the biblical story in every detail.

However, the crucifixion account, Mr. Begin used the occasion to launch a furious attack on the British Government's Middle East policy.

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## Tough Budget expected

The March Budget is likely to be tough and could mark the start of a two or three year period during which real take-home pay will be cut. The Chancellor will be able to give all personal allowance increases implied in the Rooker-Wise amendment, which raises them automatically in line with inflation. This bleak outlook is a result of high interest rates.

## Plea to athletes

Mrs. Thatcher has sent a letter to the British Olympic Association urging British athletes not to attend the Moscow Olympics. If they do, she said, they will be helping to finance the Soviet Union's "international" crime committed by the Soviet Union, she said.

## Norway warned

The Russians are intensifying their warnings to Norway about the implications in what they describe as the "arc of tension" being created on the Soviet frontier. The Russians are worried about American weaponing being stationed on Norwegian soil.

## War on starlings

Residents on the remote Finistère peninsula of Brittany are fighting off some 15 million starlings, which arrived at the end of January and so far have eaten 30 tons of corn.

Leader page, 15  
Letters: On the welfare of the world, from Dame Judith Hart, MP, and Mr. Ewart Parkinson; on violence, from the Chief Constable of Lancashire; on our notes for Mr. Levin, from Sir Denis Forman, and others.  
Leading articles: Trade union law; Canadian election.  
Features, pages 14, 16  
Roger Berthoud on the courage of Graham Southey; China's move towards Leninism, by Richard Harris; Professor David Smith on why London's education authority should go.

## US to curb money supply growth

United States monetary policy is to be tightened, Mr. Paul Volcker, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, said. He said the bank was determined to curb money supply growth. Leading banks increased their prime rate from 15.25 per cent to 15.75 per cent, and the Dow Jones Industrial Index fell sharply.

## Threat to Austin Morris

An extended strike at BL's Longbridge plant in Birmingham over the reinstatement of Mr. Derek Robinson, the dismissed shop steward leader, will determine the fate of Austin Morris, Mr. Ray Horrocks, managing director of BL Cars, said.

## Nuclear sites selected

Protests are likely over the announcement that five sites in Cornwall and Dorset are to be investigated as possible locations for nuclear power stations. The CEBG expects a public inquiry before building on any of the sites.

Rhodesia: Britain plans phased withdrawal of troops after election.

Delhi: Anger growing in India over dissolution of state assemblies.

Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 27, 28; Property, 10, 25; Appointments, 10, 24; Creme de la Creme, 24, 25.

Business News, pages 18-23  
Stock markets: Equities continued to drift as buyers stayed away while gilts were hit by the latest rise in US prime rates. The FT Index fell 1.2 to 461.8.  
Financial Editor: Stronger medicine from the Fed. Dumbest gambler's final play, Marchwiler's cash cushion.  
Business features: Adrienne Gleeson assesses the chance of a radical reform of capital taxation in the Budget; Mario Modiano on the impending entry of Greece into the EEC.

## President Tito responds

From Dassa Trevisan, Belgrade, Feb 19

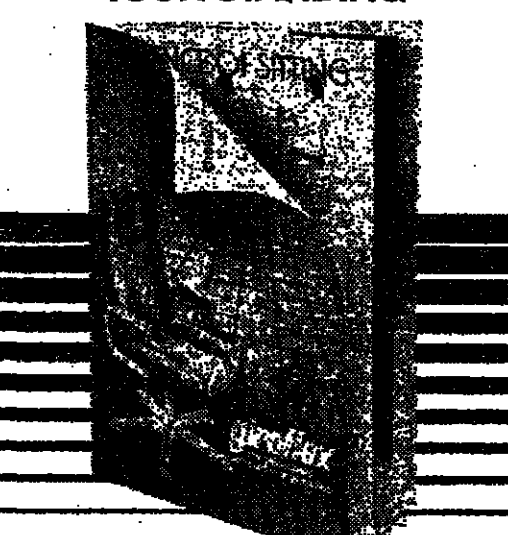
Today's medical bulletin on the condition of President Tito is more optimistic although the chances of him recovering totally are clearly being ruled out.

His heart, which weakened as a result of the kidney defect, has recovered in the past few days, but he remains a gravely sick man.

Dr Robert Dinegar, a chemist on the staff of the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory in New Mexico, has disclosed the gist of the results from the scientific tests on certain stains or marks

Continued on page 6, col 4

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## HOME NEWS

# Inquiry into nuclear test drilling in Ayrshire opens to an objector's shout of 'farce'

From Ronald Faux  
Ayr

There was an abrasive start yesterday to the public inquiry into the proposal to drill holes in Mullach Hill, Ayrshire, as part of a nuclear research programme.

Mr William Campbell, the reporter, had hardly declared the hearing open in Ayr town hall, when an objector shouted that the inquiry was a farce and an offence to natural justice.

The man was protesting at the narrow remit of the inquiry which is into an application by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority to make test holes in the granite of the hill and to set up a few temporary huts.

The counsel for the two local authorities opposing the application, the Kyle and Carrick and the Cumock and Doon district councils, said they were

reserving their position over the restrictions placed on Mr Campbell by the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Mr Campbell told the objectors he would listen as patiently as possible to their wide variety of arguments but he said the scope of the inquiry concerned boreholes and huts. No one would be prevented from calling evidence about the disposal of nuclear waste but the further their points ranged from the main scope of the inquiry, the more they could expect to be summarised in his report.

A businessman from Edinburgh, representing a group of people of Scotland, objected to the dumping of nuclear fission waste but did not intend to sit around in Ayr for weeks. He made his point and left.

Mrs Marjorie Linklater, of the Orkney "no uranium"

campaign, said the report after an examination in public in Orkney of their objections had been most partial, and heavily weighted against the feelings of the local authorities and the people. Mr Campbell conducted the Orkney inquiry.

Mr William Scott, Under Secretary at the Scottish Development Department, dealing with policy on nuclear waste management, told the inquiry that no decision had been taken on whether high-level radioactive waste would ever be disposed of underground.

Given the scope of the research programme and the length of time likely to be required to carry it out, it would be at least 10 years before a decision was made on likely sites for a repository. The inquiry is likely to last several weeks.

## Atom waste ships are defended

By Pearce Wright  
Science Editor

Waste nuclear fuel is a less hazardous cargo to carry by sea than many other materials transported by ship as a matter of routine, according to British Nuclear Fuels Ltd.

The company expresses that view in a reply to a study made for the Greenpeace Foundation which refers to the hazards of handling nuclear waste cargoes, and in particular to the potential severity of a release of radioactivity from a fire on a ship.

British Nuclear Fuels maintains that the principal line of defence against an accidental release of radioactivity lies in the inherent safety of the vessels, which are designed to meet standards agreed by a group of international experts. Other precautions avoid the hazards attributed by Greenpeace to transport by sea, the company says. The complaints about the vessel Pacific Swan which carries nuclear waste from Japan to Barrow, are based on a totally unrealistic sequence of events, it is claimed.

That observation exposes the fundamental gulf between supporters and opponents of nuclear power, because there are certain hypotheses about accidents that the first group rejects as incredible and the second group regards as probable.

The survey undertaken for the Greenpeace Foundation by the Political Ecology Research Group, Oxford, describes how severe radioactive contamination could result from a fire spreading to a ship's cargo holds.

The contamination would be released into the atmosphere because fire-fighting equipment on board, or a land-based service in a port like Barrow, could not cope with the blaze. The company regards that sequence of events as far fetched.

It says that as the nuclear waste vessels carry no flammable cargo and have only fuel oil on board, an outbreak of fire is a remote risk.

There is a limited supply of air to the holds and fuel oil is carried in several separate tanks, the company says.

The suggestion of a nuclear waste flask reaching a temperature of 1,000°C, provoking a catastrophic failure, in a nine-hour fire is seen as an impossibility.

Although British Nuclear Fuels believes that the flasks are designed to be safe in all credible circumstances, additional precautions and special features are being incorporated in the cargo ships to increase safety. They include collision protection shields, duplication of navigation equipment, satellite communication systems, special fire-fighting equipment and emergency hold flooding.

Our Whitehall Correspondent writes: The atomic dumping site at Drigg, west Cumbria, has become one of the best unofficial wildlife sanctuaries in the country, British Nuclear Fuels says.

Animals including badgers and foxes, and rare reptiles and birds are thriving on the site, even though low-level radioactive waste from Windscale a few miles away has been dumped there for 30 years.

Sites for nuclear stations, page 20

## Extra water 'vital to Windscale plant'

From Our Correspondent  
Whitehaven

Plans for a multimillion-pound reprocessing plant at the Windscale nuclear complex will be in jeopardy unless extra water is made available, it was claimed yesterday.

Mr John Wharton, British Nuclear Fuels' deputy chief engineer, told the two lakes inquiry in Whitehaven that unless the company could be guaranteed the extra water needed for the thermal oxide reprocessing plant the development might not go ahead.

He said they had to be sure

all their water requirements could be met before plans for the expansion could begin.

The company is applying to take extra water from West Water for use at the plant.

Yesterday, the twenty-second day of the hearing, two scientists representing the company described the quality of water needed at the plant.

Dr Raymond Shaw, head of the corrosion section at Windscale, described the corrosion behaviour of water on stainless steel, used to contain radioactive liquid at the plant, and the importance of various

impurities in water in stopping corrosion.

Mr Cyril Dome, station chemist at the plant, dealt with the analysis of water samples from a number of sources and explained the present and intended methods of obtaining demineralised water.

Each unit of the company's need for high quality water from West Water for use at the plant.

Dr Shaw said the company had been using West Water for the past 28 years and was very satisfied with it.

The inquiry continues.

## South-east house prices widen cost-of-living gap

By David Nicholson-Lord

The cost of living gap between the south-east and the rest of the country continues to widen, higher house price rises being largely to blame, according to a report published yesterday.

The latest inflation bulletin from Reward Regional Surveys, of Staffordshire, shows that life in the South-east is 11.8 per cent more expensive than in the rest of the country, including the Greater London area, compared with 9.9 per cent last year. The gap has increased steadily from a low point of 6.4 per cent in 1977.

Without housing costs, where the south-east is half as costly again as the average, the gap narrows to half a percentage point.

## A restricted day for Vikings

The organizers of the Vikings exhibition at the Museum have warned the public to stay away on Monday mornings because that time is reserved for school parties.

The organizers said yesterday that hundreds of people had turned up on Monday to see the exhibition and found that only school groups were being admitted. More than 20,000 people have visited the exhibition, which continues until July 20.

## Athina B at the breakers

The Athina B, the wrecked Greek coaster which became a tourist attraction at Brighton, arrived at a breakers yard at Rainham, Kent, yesterday.

The ship was refloated from Brighton beach on Sunday, but ran aground again 300 yards from her destination on Monday while being towed in the Medway. Three tugs dislodged her from a mudbank.

## Murder charge

Brian Talbot, aged 46, a process worker, of Valda Vale, Llanham, Humberside, was remanded in custody for a week by Grimsby magistrates yesterday charged with the murder of his daughter, Collette, aged 12, on February 4.

## Family dies in crash

A boy aged two and his parents were found dead today in the wrecked cab of an articulated lorry which overturned at Barton Mills, Suffolk. They are believed to have come from Wales.

## GLC lottery will help to save heritage

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The Greater London Council is to set up a trust to help to preserve and safeguard London's historic buildings, it was announced yesterday. A grant of £50,000 will come largely from proceeds of the GLC lottery, and another £50,000 is promised over the next five years.

The Heritage of London Trust will be largely independent of the council, making restoration and maintenance grants to owners and may also buy listed buildings needing repair. It will renovate them, then sell them, a function not normally undertaken by local authorities.

Trust members will include Lord Reilly, an advisory member of the GLC historic buildings committee and chairman of the Building Conservation Trust.

Mr William Bell, chairman of the historic buildings committee, who suggested a trust, said: "In helping to preserve the capital's heritage the trust will be of enormous benefit both to London and the country. It will not just be a campaigning body. It will select projects and carefully supervise the use of its funds."

He said the trust, with charitable status, would be funded by subscriptions and would also raise money from the public and from London's industry and commerce.

Mr Bell hoped the trust would look at London's churches. In addition the trust should be able to enlarge considerably the variety and extent of architectural conservation.

## The Law Society defends its insurance scheme

The Law Society argued in the High Court yesterday that it had acted conscientiously in setting up a compulsory scheme to insure solicitors against civil liability for professional negligence or breach of duty.

Mr Robert Alexander, QC, for the Law Society, told Mr Justice Slade that a complaint that the Law Society had exceeded its legal powers in setting up the scheme was a by-product of the discount felt by some solicitors.

Mr Alexander was replying to submissions on behalf of two solicitors who are seeking a declaration that the indemnity scheme does not comply with rules made under the Solicitors Act, 1944, and is null and void.

Mr James Swain, who practises from Staple Inn, London, and Mr Alan McLaren, of Burnham-on-Sey, Somerset, are also asking the judge to decide whether or not the Law Society is entitled to retain, for its own purposes, brokers' commission received from the insurers on premiums paid by solicitors.

The hearing continues today.

## Fabians to study machinery of government

By Peter Hennessey

The Fabian Society has appointed a study group to find ways in which a future Labour government could implement its policies more effectively by changing its relationship with Parliament and the Civil Service.

The chairman of the Machinery of Government Working Party, as the group is officially known, is Mr David Lipsey, a journalist, with the magazine New Society, a former special adviser to the late Mr Anthony Crosland at the Department of the Environment and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and a former member of Mr James Callaghan's Policy Unit at 10 Downing Street.

"What we have decided to do," Mr Lipsey explained in the language of the professional economist, "is to start on the 'perfect competition' assumption that a Labour government is returned at the next election with 'perfect' policies."

"How it comes by those policies is not for us to determine. Our remit is to decide, in the light of the experience of the last Labour government, what if any changes in the machinery of central government are necessary to bring those policies about in an optimal way."

The idea of the working



Dangling window frames and a large gap where a house once stood in Leeds Road, Wakefield, before yesterday's explosion.

## Seven hurt in house explosion

From Our Correspondent  
Wakefield

Seven people were taken to hospital yesterday after an explosion wrecked a three-storey house in Wakefield, West Yorkshire. One resident, a nurse, aged 29, was trapped under debris for 80 minutes.

Miss Dorothy Gomersall, the nurse, was in bed at the time of the blast and she and her bed fell through the floor into the basement. A door acted as a

shield and prevented debris falling on her. She was brought out through a small gap dug in the wreckage by a fireman and two policemen. A policeman said: "While we were working to free her she chanted to us and we sang hymns. She was really marvellous."

Window frames were blown 60 yards from the wrecked house and clothing was blown into trees. Two people walking past were cut by flying glass and were among the seven taken to hospital.

Miss Gomersall was detained with head and back injuries. Two other casualties were also detained but the rest were discharged after treatment.

The house, in Leeds Road,

was the middle one of three flats. It was largely destroyed and those on either side had windows blown out and walls cracked. The explosion, just after 8 am, brought residents into the street in their night clothes.

One of the first policemen on the scene found two men balancing precariously on the edge of one of the upstairs floors. They were later rescued by firemen.

One of the people who lived in the house's basement was found with the skin on part of his face and the backs of his hands blown off.

As they worked rescuers feared that the shell of the house might collapse. But they

were worried that more people might be trapped and only when everyone had been accounted for did they move out to allow the building to be made safe.

Chief Supt John Gilmour, head of the Wakefield division of West Yorkshire police, said the cause of the explosion was being investigated and forensic science experts had been called in.

Gas had not been ruled out as a cause although there was no mains gas to the flats. He said: "Everyone in the flats had a remarkable escape."

The three people detained in hospital were named last night as Mr Anthony Cooper, Mr Austin Bailey and Miss Gomersall. The two men were not seriously hurt.

## Ombudsman is concerned by tax officials' errors

By Trevor Fishlock

The income tax authorities are taken to task by Mr Cecil Clothier, QC, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman). In his annual report published yesterday.

He says he is concerned about serious injustices caused by errors in handling tax returns, for which there is either no remedy or only an inadequate one. He believes the Inland Revenue should acknowledge its responsibilities and meet them.

Mr Clothier is especially concerned about demands for tax arrears which accumulate through official error.

"I was disturbed by the outcome of my investigation into a case where I criticized gross error on the Inland Revenue's part, but had to report that they offered what I considered an inadequate remedy. On 120 cases 86 were pensioners and in 79 cases the errors involved failure to make proper coding arrangements."

Mr Clothier said he was pleased that more cooperation between the tax authorities and the Department of Health and Social Security should reduce the number of errors made in coding. But he questioned the validity of the Inland Revenue's presumption that the taxpayer "could reasonably believe this

his affairs were in order" and so not qualify for remission.

"It is not easy for the average taxpayer to understand, let alone check in detail, the assessment he receives. I feel people have a right to expect the Inland Revenue, if properly informed by the taxpayer, not to make mistakes."

The Ombudsman says he is disturbed that in certain cases there still remains no remedy for those whose affairs are badly handled by the Inland Revenue, even where error is acknowledged.

The tax authorities are sometimes prepared to make extra payments in hardship cases falling outside agreed guidelines. Mr Clothier says: "But only in cases of 'absolute hardship'."

On this point he writes: "I do not accept that there is any such state as absolute hardship. All hardship is relative to circumstances."

Mr Clothier, the first Ombudsman appointed from outside the public service, feels that he can handle more cases and cover a wider territory.

The 758 complaints he received during the year were a two-fifths reduction on the number he had in 1978. Under the terms of his jurisdiction he was able to accept less than a third of them.

## Two injured in street gems raid

By a Staff Reporter

A gang armed with a shotgun and a lead-pipe cashed a robbery and two diamond dealers of stones and rings worth about £150,000 outside the London silver vaults yesterday.

Mr Joseph Rabinstein, aged 63, and Mr Emanuel Rabinstein, aged 51, his cousin, were attacked by three men in a hired white Transit van as they left the vaults off Chancery Lane, at 9.30 am. A traffic warden was dragged into the struggle and a shot fired in the air before the gang bundled the elder of the cousins into the van and escaped.

The van, hired on Monday afternoon from a company based at Croydon, was later found abandoned behind the offices of The Guardian newspaper off Farringdon Road, where Mr Joseph Rabinstein inside.

He was taken to St Bartholomew's Hospital where he was detained with a suspected fractured skull. His cousin was treated for head injuries and released.

Both men, who work for Max Rabinstein and Son, of Hatton Garden, are understood to have made trips twice daily to a safe deposit box in the vaults.

Police are seeking information on the whereabouts of the van, marked with the words "Swift Hire", after it was hired.

## Coroner asks for heart postmortem

By Our Health Services Correspondent

A post-mortem examination is to be held on Mrs Dorothy Bayward, aged 46, the widow who died after a heart transplant operation at Hatfield Hospital, near Uxbridge, Middlesex, at the request of Mr John Burton, the West London Coroner.

Until then hospital doctors cannot take tissue samples from the heart, which came from a Dutch car accident victim, aged 20, to discover whether there was rejection.

Mr Magdi Yacoub, the consultant surgeon who led the transplant team, will try to establish how far Mrs Bayward's condition as a victim of progressive heart disease for over six years, affected the failure of the transplant.

## 60,000 more mothers will get maternity grant

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Contribution conditions for the maternity grant are to be dropped in 1982, making about 60,000 more mothers eligible each year.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Social Security, announced the change yesterday during the committee stage of the Social Security Bill, when she said the Government would support an amendment tabled by Mr Thomas Benyon, Conservative MP for Abingdon.

The announcement marks a shift in the Government's attitude. It blocked a private member's Bill designed to make the grant non-contributory, restore its value to the level achieved when it was last raised to £25 in 1969, and index it to price increases. The Government also rejected opposition

amendments with the same aim.

Removing the contribution conditions will cost £1.5m gross, but that will be offset by £300,000 saved on exceptional needs payments now paid through supplementary benefits.

Mr Benyon pleaded for discretion in continuing exceptional needs payments.

The grant had been neglected for 10 years by successive governments, he said. To restore its value to the 1969 level, it should be £25 now and more than £30 by 1982.

However, the Government has made no decision yet on whether the grant will be increased in advance of the easing of the conditions, or on the date of the change. Administration of the grant will be transferred to the child benefit centre at Washington New Town, and it is hoped that it will be ready to do the work by April, 1982.

## Princess's holiday flight

Princess Margaret and Mr Roderick Llewellyn left London yesterday for a three-week holiday on the island of Mustique.

Under the name of Brown, the couple were seen on their scheduled British Airways flight to Barbados in adjoining seats in the economy section of a 747 jet.

Princess Margaret travelled to Heathrow in a chauffeur-driven

black Ford Escort. Mr Llewellyn followed in a small Toyota.

The Princess, wearing a peach-coloured coat, was escorted to the airport's Alcock and Brown lounge, closely followed by her lady-in-waiting, her detective, and finally Mr Llewellyn.

The couple stayed in the lounge for half an hour, drinking coffee, before being driven out to their flight.

## Defence theft charge men remanded on bail

From Our Correspondent  
Nottingham

Two men, who were said to face serious charges of stealing from the Ministry of Defence at Aldershot, were given bail in their absence at Nottingham Magistrates' Court yesterday. They were remanded to appear in Nottingham on April 22.

Christopher Francis, May aged 25, of Sonning Lane, Sonning, Berkshire, and Stephen Ustick Beuchamp, aged 29, of Eldon Square, Reading, Berkshire, were jointly charged with stealing property valued at £61,600 during a motor spare parts sale at a Ministry of Defence depot at Ruddington, Nottingham. The property included vehicle light bulbs, flashing units, reflectors, and connectors.

Mr Christopher Worthington, for the prosecution, said that the men faced more serious matters involving theft from the Ministry of Defence.

## Clergyman fined £40 for indecency

A clergyman, who was arrested for indecency in a West End store, faced a greater than punishment, a court could impose. Mr John Underwood, for the defence, said at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday.

Canon Arthur Keith Walker, aged 46, Precursor of Chichester Cathedral, and father of two schoolchildren, of The Rectory, Canon Lane, Chichester, Sussex, was fined £40.

He pleaded guilty to committing an indecent act to the annoyance of others at the Peter Robinson store, Oxford Circus, on February 15. A charge of outraging public decency was withdrawn.

Mr Underwood said: "He has not got an explanation. He says it was something which occurred without his full consciousness."



## HOME NEWS

## 'Severance pay' plan is urged to avoid splitting Labour vote

By George Clark  
Political Correspondent

Proposals for the "automatic reselection" of Labour Party candidates by each constituency party, whether or not it has a sitting MP, are supported by the Labour Parliamentary Association in its submission to the commission of inquiry considering the party's future organisation.

The association, commonly known as the party's "youths", has about 500 members, most of them candidates who are contested general elections or are potential candidates looking for a constituency to adopt them.

Some MPs belong, the chairman being Mr Ernest Roberts, MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, and the vice-chairman Mr Dennis Skinner, MP for Bolsover.

The association says that each constituency party should, if it has a sitting MP, call a selection conference to select its general election candidate. It thinks the present procedure should be retained.

General Management Committee delegate system of parliamentary selection is, in general, an honest reflection of Labour members' views and is not normally susceptible to

corruption or subsequent disfigure, as might easily be the case were all Labour members eligible to vote at a selection conference, whether in person or by post, the association says.

When an MP retires, as a result of being unsuccessful at a selection conference or for any other reason, the association considers that he or she should be compensated by some form of severance pay.

Any inducement to stand against the party as an independent should be eliminated, the candidates say, "and reasonable severance pay would seem to be the just method of achieving this."

Severance pay should be dealt with by legislation, not left to the constituency party to pay, nor to the Labour Party centrally, "for in no sense is an MP an employee of either the CLP or of the Labour Party."

This proposal would obviously require the consent of a Commons majority, so would have to await an election at which Labour gained a substantial majority (even assuming the party advanced it); but there are indications that if sitting Labour MPs are forced out, they would stand as independents.



Miss Pears 1979: Christine Cashman, aged five, of South Croydon, posing before her portrait yesterday after she had unveiled it at the Royal Academy, London. It was painted by Crispin Thornton-Jones, of Craswall, Herefordshire, whose work at last year's Royal Society of Portrait Painters Exhibition in London attracted the attention of A. & F. Pears.

## WEST EUROPE

## 15 million starlings pick French farms clean

From Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, Feb 19

The countryfolk in the remote commune of Laz on the Finistère peninsula of Brittany might be excused at the moment for believing they are living in a scene from the Alfred Hitchcock thriller *The Birds*. They are doing battle with about 15 million starlings which are threatening their livelihood.

The birds arrived at the end of January, huge clouds of them, from neighbouring Crozon to the east, where they had already exhausted the food supplies.

The local council has been doing its best to get rid of them, letting off hundreds of fireworks and firing bird scarers. The noise of battle rolls across the normally quiet countryside.

So far, however, it has all been to no avail. The birds remain and each day they eat about 30 tons of corn—20 grams a bird—because silos offer no defence. In desperation, the town is thinking of calling in the army.

Earlier this month farmers in the St Lo area faced a similar invasion of starlings. Five million of them were using a wood as a dormitory and they refused to move despite being bombed from a helicopter with a chemical jelly.

According to a scientist at the Museum of Natural History in Paris the gathering of great clouds of starlings has become increasingly common in recent years due to the tendency to create larger farms.

This has meant the destruction of hedgerows and copses, the natural habitats of the animals like martens and weasels which prey on the birds' eggs. This ecological change has led to an explosion in the starling population.

According to the French National Institute for Agronomy Research, starlings ate 216,000 tons of food in France during 1978. Farmers in Laz have no reason to think that figure is an exaggeration.

tomorrow, and allowing that the Royal Ulster Constabulary regular force were to remain at its present strength of 6,642, there would be at least 15,000 people left jobless.

The party accuses civil servants in Northern Ireland of dragging their feet on cross-border economic cooperation. It says that opportunities exist for cooperation with the republic's Industrial Development Board, the electricity authorities and others.

Forty-six public bodies were appointed in full or part by the British Government and all were dominated by unionists, the party says. The British Government had not made use of them to encourage a partnership administration.

## Action fortnight brings political rift between France's main union groups to a climax

From Ian Murray  
Paris, Feb 19

The largest trade union group in France, the Communist-dominated CGT, has begun a much-heralded "fortnight of action" aimed at increasing union militancy on the shop floor throughout the country. But already it has caused a split with the second largest union group, the Socialist CFDT.

All the lip service paid down the years by the two groups to the idea of a united approach in arguing the workers' case before management seem to have gone out of the window in the flurry of invective provoked by the rallying calls for the fortnight of action, and the CGT's insistence on roiling the Communist Party line.

The trouble came out into the open on January 29 after a top-level meeting between the leaders of the two union groups. The omens for that meeting were already not auspicious and they proved right.

The meeting went on for four hours, although for half that time the two sides were meeting separately discussing their position in the light of what had been said while they were together.

The point at issue was the CGT's insistence that the fortnight of action should be limited to pressing the case for better salaries, jobs and conditions. The CFDT could not accept that a union's obligations to its members ended there and insisted that the political beliefs of the unions could not be ignored.

What was worrying the Socialist union was the fact that the CGT had taken up a strongly pro-Soviet stance after the invasion of Afghanistan and the exile of Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Soviet dissident scientist. To the CFDT it was impossible to work as allies with a union movement which supported what it considered were basic breaches of human and international rights.

The CGT promptly rounded on the Socialists, accusing them of being scared of joining the fortnight of action. M. Charles Seguy, the leader of the CGT, said at the weekend that the CFDT had categorically refused to join in a common declaration renouncing the fight for better conditions.

That has stung M. Albert Mercier, the national secretary of the CFDT, to reply that these continual attacks are destroying any chance of united action based on a clear agreement on objectives and styles of action.

The style of action preferred by the CGT is still this fortnight's variety, complete with a national rally in Paris on Thursday, led by M. Seguy. The Communist newspaper, *L'Humanité*, has launched it today with a long list of individual cases in which it alleges that workers have been persecuted by employers, in one instance to the point of suicide.

## EEC faces tomato 'swamp' and peach mound

By Hugh Clayton  
Agriculture Correspondent

The European Community would soon have a "mountain" of surplus peaches and a "swamp" of unwanted tomatoes, food importers said yesterday. Mr Derek Leigh, trading director of John West Foods, told reporters in London that the EEC was "spending money indiscriminately to boost inefficiency."

The importers' statement was the latest in a series of complaints from Britain about the working of the common agricultural policy. Mr Leigh said that the level of protection given to EEC farmers against imported produce was too great and too costly.

Mr Peter Gibbons, manager of A. J. Mills & Co. said that the extra duty imposed by the EEC on corned beef from outside added 7p a lb to the cost of the product in British shops. Mr Leigh said that canned foods like salmon and pineapple attracted heavy taxes when they came into the Community even though there were no equivalent products in Europe.

EEC subsidies to Italian growers had encouraged a doubling of Italian tomato output in the past two years and an expansion of the acreage of peaches. "Before too long we are going to have piles of peaches and tomato swamps to add to the butter mountains and wine lakes," he said.

Mr Leigh, who is president of Frucom, the EEC association of processors of food importers, said that the subsidy on peaches was equivalent to half of the retail price of a 1lb tin in Britain.

"Who is paying?" he asked. "The taxpayer, of course. It is crazy when traditional suppliers in countries like South Africa and Australia could provide those peaches at the same price as Italy without any cost to the taxpayer."

He said that duties on imports and subsidies to EEC growers should be cut, and that the subsidies should be paid only on limited amounts of food.

## Ulster economic policy attacked

From Annabel Ferriman  
Belfast

The Social Democratic and Labour Party attacked British economic policy in Northern Ireland yesterday, saying that after 60 years of British rule the overpopulation picture was of a collapsing economy.

In a paper presented to the parallel conference at Stormont, in which the SDLP is meeting Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, the party says that the British Government's rule, through Stormont and afterwards, has brought "neither peace, stability, nor good government."

It says that the province has the lowest industrial earnings in the United Kingdom, the highest unemployment and the

highest rate of emigration. It also has the highest rate of infant mortality, the lowest life expectancy and the poorest standard of living.

Manufacturing industry is in drastic decline, labour shed by agriculture has nowhere else to turn, and the growth rate is at zero. The province has the highest dependence on financial security, the greatest reliance on income maintenance and the average standard of living is 78 per cent of that of the United Kingdom.

The paper says that while unrest in the province has discouraged industry, it has provided additional employment for prison officers, security guards in private employment, policemen and army reservists. If peace were to come to

tomorrow, and allowing that the Royal Ulster Constabulary regular force were to remain at its present strength of 6,642, there would be at least 15,000 people left jobless.

The party accuses civil servants in Northern Ireland of dragging their feet on cross-border economic cooperation. It says that opportunities exist for cooperation with the republic's Industrial Development Board, the electricity authorities and others.

Forty-six public bodies were appointed in full or part by the British Government and all were dominated by unionists, the party says. The British Government had not made use of them to encourage a partnership administration.

## IRA admits murder of British colonel

From Our Own Correspondent  
Belfast

The Provisional IRA yesterday claimed responsibility for the murder of Colonel Mark Coe of the British Army of the Rhine in Bielefeld, West Germany, at the weekend and at the same time admitted the murder of Sir Richard Sykes, British Ambassador to The Hague, last March.

Colonel Coe, aged 43, a father of six, was shot as he was parking his car outside his house on Saturday. Sir Richard, aged 58, was shot as he was about to drive from his residence to the Embassy, last March 22.

The Provisional IRA claimed in a statement issued in Dublin

that Sir Richard had engaged in intelligence operations against its members and was therefore more important than other ambassadors.

Colonel Coe, who had been in Ireland in 1972, was "executed in an army which is engaged in oppressing the nationalist people in the occupied six counties," the statement said.

"The reason for these attacks is crystal clear: the continued occupation of part of our country. Other British oppressors wherever they be stationed should know that by no means have we finished."

The statement also said that the IRA was responsible for bombings in British Army bases

in West Germany in 1978 and 1979 and the bombing in Brussels on August 28, 1979, when a military band was about to play.

Crash victims named: The two soldiers who were killed in a helicopter crash four miles west of Belfast on Monday night were named yesterday as Acting Sergeant Kenneth Robson, aged 27, single, from Newquay, Cornwall, and Lance Corporal Robbie Lister, aged 22, single, from Colchester, Essex.

The men died when their helicopter crashed into a power cable on a routine flight from Aldergrove airport to Lisburn. An inquiry into the accident which occurred in dense fog, has been set up.

## Inquiry into second house fire in Anglesey

From Our Correspondent  
Llandudno

Police in North Wales said yesterday that a second holiday home fire has been discovered in Anglesey, a few miles from the cottage found badly damaged on Monday.

The latest incident is at Tycroes and involved a holiday cottage owned by a local estate company. There had been a break-in and attempt to start a fire, but the only damage was caused by smoke.

Yesterday forensic scientists were at the scene of the other fire at Newborough, in which a bedroom of a holiday cottage owned by Mr Frank Nugent, an electrical engineer, and his wife of Audenshaw, Greater Manchester, was badly damaged. Later the scientists examined the Tycroes cottage.

The two incidents have brought the number of holiday home fires in Wales to 19. The incidents began in December and a group of nationalist extremists is believed to be responsible.

## Tests show no arsenic in three south coast whales

By Frances Gibb

As the sixth dead whale was washed ashore on the south coast yesterday, government scientists announced that tests on three of the whales provide no evidence that they were poisoned by arsenic trichloride from the sunken Greek freighter *Aeolian Sky*.

The tests, at the Ministry of Agriculture's Fisheries Laboratory at Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex, have not ruled out the possibility of poisoning from other chemicals and further tests are being carried out to establish the exact cause of death.

It is thought more likely that the whales have come from as far away as the South Atlantic and been washed into the Channel by an unusual combination of winds and currents.

"It has been noted that the whales had been dead for some time," the laboratory report says, "and it is considered

quite possible that they may have drifted a considerable distance before they were washed up."

The whales, sperm and pilot, were all in a state of advanced decomposition and had been dead for some time.

The report comes just before a visit to the Isle of Wight today by Mr Marcus Fox, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, to assess the extent of the danger from the sunken freighter.

More than 1,000 canisters from the ship have been washed ashore on beaches in Dorset, Hampshire and Sussex, and about a dozen of them are thought to contain arsenic trichloride, which is lethal when exposed to air.

The freighter sank 12 miles east of Portland Bill on November 4 when being towed to harbour after a collision with a German tanker. The other less harmful chemicals such as hair spray and nail varnish,

## Ex-MP says police forced him to undress

Raymond Blackburn, the

campaigner against pornography, complained at Marlborough Street Magistrates Court, London, yesterday, that he had been forced to remove his underpants in the presence of two smiling young police officers. He draped a pair of grubby pants over the dock and brandished them at officers while questioning them about how he was searched at West End Central police station.

Mr Blackburn, aged 64, a former Labour MP of Hornsea Road, Chiswick, London, denied being drunk and dis-

orderly. He was fined £5 and ordered to pay £15 costs.

He told the court he was an alcoholic who rarely drank. On September 8 last year he had consumed brandy and champagne.

He accused the police of lying about his behaviour, and said he would take further action against them. He accused Mr David Hopkin, the magistrate, of being a police magistrate, and said "I think it is scandalous that this country should be turned into a police state." He said: "There is absolutely no evidence of being disorderly."

## Plan to revitalize docks is backed on Merseyside

From Our Correspondent  
Liverpool

Merseyside County Council, which had bitterly opposed the Government plan to set up an urban development corporation to revitalize the derelict South Docks at Liverpool, yesterday gave its approval, subject to certain reservations. It denied making a U-turn.

The council carried with one dissenting vote a resolution emphasizing the need to cooperate with the scheme now that it had become government policy. It unanimously welcomed the fact that Sir Kenneth Thompson, county council chairman, who had opposed the plan, had agreed to become deputy chairman of the corporation.

## Burns Club

A report in *The Times* on January 23 about a Burns dinner in Moscow has been taken to imply that the Edinburgh Burns Club had met and considered the matter, and that no objections to proceeding with the arrangements had been raised. That is a misunderstanding of the position. The club had not then met since the invasion of Afghanistan, and its president had made no statement on its behalf.

## Getaway car of building society gunman found

An escape car used by a

gunman who held hostage a building society manager, his wife and their son, for three months, as their house during the weekend has been found. The white Marina was parked outside Woodford Underground station, east London.

Police, who found it after a street-to-street search, believe the gunman drove straight here on Monday morning after escaping with £11,000 from a Halifax

Building Society office. Police are seeking witnesses who may have seen him in the car or boarding a train.

Mr William Knights and his wife Marion were held hostage at their home in Roding Lane North, Woodford Green, later the gunman drove Mr Knights to his office and a deputy manager was ambushed as he arrived with a second safe key. The raider fled with the weekend deposits.

# "To appreciate Lufthansa, once in a while, one has to fly another airline."

This is an authentic passenger statement.



**Lufthansa**  
German Airlines



## WEST EUROPE

## East-West scientists meet under an international cloud

From Patricia Clough

Hamburg, Feb 19

About 300 leading scientists from East and West are gathered here for two weeks' discussions on cooperation, knowing full well that the results will be meagre. They are in Hamburg because the 35 countries of the 1975 Helsinki Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe agreed to improve exchanges, contacts and collaboration in the scientific field.

But there are few illusions here on either side. The more optimistic hope that after the conference they will be able to recommend to their governments that they collaborate on certain projects in the fields of energy, food production, and medical and sociological research.

But the Scientific Forum, as the conference is called, will not remove the real obstacles to collaboration, in particular the restrictions on the movement of Eastern European scientists, Western delegates say.

Lord Todd, the president of the Royal Society and head of the British delegation, complained in strong terms about the trouble caused to organizers of scientific meetings who frequently invite individual Soviet scientists, often offering generous expenses, only to have their invitations ignored, rejected, or accepted and then cancelled at the last moment without explanation.

As his American and French colleagues pointed out, feeling among Western scientists about the Soviet Union's persecution of its scientists involved in human rights activities, is so strong that many are refusing to collaborate with Soviet scientists until the situation improves.

The forum is providing an opportunity for the scientists to make contacts; as a Rumanian delegate put it, there are two conferences, one official

and the other round glasses of beer. But most of the scientists know each other already, anyway, since they meet at international conferences or through contacts between their institutions.

Western scientists, delegates say, are also cool about becoming involved in projects which, since Western technology is more advanced, would mainly be one-way traffic in favour of their Eastern colleagues and with little benefit to themselves.

The first few moments of the conference were somewhat painful as the local choir and orchestra started the inaugural concert in two entirely different keys. It looked as if political discord was to follow.

The Soviet delegation, on the defensive from the start, had put it about that they would walk out if the subject of their dissident scientists was brought up.

It was in most emphatic terms by British, American and, today, French delegates, but just as several Western delegations had resisted the British demand to boycott the conference, the East Europeans grunted their teeth and sat it out with nothing more than angry protests.

It appeared clear to diplomatic delegates in the forum that neither side wanted to take any action which would damage the prospects of the next "Helsinki" conference in Madrid in November.

British protest: The Council of the Royal Astronomical Society has sent a telegram to the Soviet Academy of Sciences condemning the restrictions placed on Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Nobel prize winner, as a violation of human rights.

The telegram said they threatened relations between Soviet and British astronomers and geophysicists and endangered the continuation of scientific exchanges.

## OVERSEAS

## Decisive Trudeau victory in Canadian elections

From Patrick Brogan

Toronto, Feb 19

The Liberal Party won a decisive victory in the Canadian general election yesterday and Mr Pierre Trudeau will return to power after a nine-month interval. The Liberals won 48 per cent of the vote and 148 seats out of a total of 281, compared with 114 in the election last May.

The Progressive Conservatives were reduced to 101 seats and 30 per cent of the vote. In 1979 they won 136 seats and formed their first government for 16 years under Mr Joe Clark. Now they must return to opposition.

The third party, the New Democratic Party, won 32 seats and 18 per cent of the vote, compared to 27 seats last year. They lost seats in the Maritimes and Ontario, and did well in the west. The Social Credit Party in Quebec lost all its seats and two thirds of its vote.

One seat in Quebec will be contested in a special election next month because one of the

candidates died during the campaign. The Liberals will take it.

They will then have 74 of the 75 seats in the province. One Conservative survived, with a very narrow margin. They lost two seats in Quebec though their share of the vote stayed steady, at 13 per cent; the Liberals increased their share from 62 to 68 per cent.

They did well in the Maritimes, picking up six extra seats, four from the Conservatives and two from the NDP.

The election was decided in Ontario, however. That fickle province, which voted out Mr Trudeau nine months ago and put Mr Clark into office, returned 54 Liberals this time, 36 Conservatives and five NDP.

The Liberals won 18 seats from the Tories and three from the NDP.

In Metropolitan Toronto the Liberals won 11 seats, a gain of seven; the Tories won four, losing eight; and the NDP picked up a Tory seat, winning two altogether.

The Tories thus lost all the seats they won from the

Liberals last May and in the space of five elections in October, 1978. In one constituency, for instance, York-Scarborough, a Tory majority of 30,000 in 1978, reduced to 3,000 last year, became a Liberal majority of 3,000 this time.

Things look very different in the West. In the four provinces and two territories west of Ontario, the Liberals managed to win two seats only, both in Manitoba.

The NDP did well in the West, particularly in British Columbia where the Liberals lost their one seat. The NDP won 15 and the Tories 10. Only Alberta, Mr Clark's home province, remained faithful to the Conservatives, returning all its 21 Tory MPs.

Power in the West therefore, is divided between Conservatives and NDP. Ontario remains the country's chief electoral battlefield. Quebec and the French districts of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island are overwhelmingly Liberal, and Conservatives and Liberals divided the rest of the Maritimes. None of the three parties

can any longer make any serious pretence to being a national party.

The two issues that decided the election were the question of leadership and energy policy. The country clearly preferred Mr Trudeau, after Mr Clark's poor showing during the nine-month conservative interregnum.

Mr Clark was thought a blunderer. He made a number of unimportant but conspicuous mistakes that damaged him in the eyes of the electorate, particularly in Ontario. The voters felt he forgot their former intense hostility to Mr Trudeau.

Paradoxically, Mr Clark was defeated in Parliament last December for exercising too much leadership. He spurned the compromises which usually rule a minority Government.

He grasped the oil nettle, determining that the price of oil must reflect world prices and that the only way to reduce consumption was to increase the cost of petrol. He proposed a modest 18 cents a gallon excise tax on petrol in the budget and the Government was defeated.

Resides promising that oil prices would not be allowed to go up as far as Mr Clark wanted, Mr Trudeau avoided setting out a coherent energy policy. Canada imports a third of its oil and, like the United States, is clinging to its cheap petrol and high consumption despite the balance of payments deficits and inexorable inflation the policy brings in its wake.

The electorate voted for the present price of petrol of about \$1.05 (56 pence) a gallon. The Liberals' comfortable majority gives them the possibility of reversing themselves smartly and implementing a tough energy policy. Such a move might shock the electorate but there need be no new elections before 1984.

Such a change might be easier if Mr Trudeau were to resign soon. His numerous opponents in the party expect him to stand down before a party convention in the autumn.

Quebec confidence: In what was more a plebiscite than an election in Quebec, the province electors chose Mr Trudeau, its "favourite son", with a vote of

full confidence. The Liberals captured every seat in the province except one, which went by a narrow margin to the Conservatives. (Anne Penketh writes from Montreal.)

One political commentator summed up the results this: "In Quebec the Liberals are in first place. Everyone else is in no place."

Mr Roch LaSalle, the successful Tory candidate, a former minister in the Clark Cabinet, expressed concern for the future of Quebec "with a confrontationist Prime Minister, like Pierre Trudeau, back in power. He has always said that he would never negotiate with René Lévesque and that kind of strategy is very unhealthy."

The election dealt a death blow to the Social Credit Party, seen by many as representing the protest vote from the country.

The New Democratic Party had cause for celebration in Quebec since, despite winning no seats, it doubled its share of no seats in the province and in several constituencies replaced Conservatives and Social Creditists in second place.

## Lord Soames to issue new rules for voting

From Dan van der Vast

Salisbury, Feb 19

Lord Soames, the Governor of Southern Rhodesia, will take further steps by the end of this week to minimize intimidation during next week's elections here, British spokesmen disclosed tonight.

A new ordinance is to be issued, severely restricting the access of polling agents to voting stations. This is part of the continuing effort to reassure voters that their ballots will be completely secret.

Further, the singing, dancing and chanting of slogans familiar in African elections will not be allowed within a 100-metre radius of polling stations. Almost all the 540 British policemen expected here at the weekend will be posted at rural polling stations as further reassurance to voters.

There are to be cast at a total of 657 polling stations. Of these, 216 rural and 119 urban will be static and 238 rural and 23 urban stations will be mobile, going from place to place during the three days allowed for voting. There will also be one air-mobile station.

A British spokesman tonight gave the figure of 196 as the new total of breaches of the ceasefire. Of these, 93 were attributed to the Patriotic Front party, with a further 11 in its former area of operations.

Of the rest, two breaches were attributed to the Rhodesian Security Forces (together with 11 cases of incitement by the Patriotic Front party, 17 to bandits and 15 to unidentified parties).

Earlier, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the former Prime Minister, and leader of the UANC, claimed that the "euphoria" which greeted the return to Rhodesia of Mr Mugabe and Mr Nkomo was "disappearing into thin air".

He had returned from an election tour of the Midlands.

If he formed the next government, he would eradicate unemployment in five years and there would be a surplus of jobs. "Who would invest in a Marxist, socialist, communist country run by Nkomo or Mugabe?" he asked.

He claimed to have indisputable evidence that 5,000 Zulu guerrillas had crossed into Rhodesia from Mozambique since the ceasefire.

He said that the danger of a coup by Mr Mugabe and Mr Nkomo were in the new government, the Bishop refused to comment. He also refused to be drawn on questions about where his party's obviously substantial election funds were coming from.

"I am not interested in answering that question," he said. "I don't deny that some were coming from South Africa."

Congress President Kaunda of Zambia said today that he feared South Africa would support a coup in Rhodesia if guerrilla leaders won next week's election.

"I have irrefutable evidence to show that South African troops were moved into Rhodesia by the British government," the President told Count Yves-Jean de Moncaeu de Bergendal, a visiting Belgian senator.

"They have said they're withdrawing their forces, but those South African troops are still there in battalions," he said.

Britain attacked: Tanzania today intensified its attacks on Britain's handling of the Rhodesia situation by suggesting that London had something to hide because it declined to accept a Tanzanian proposal that Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, should visit the colony.

According to the Government-owned Daily News, President Nyerere has received a letter from Dr Waldheim stating that Britain's United Nations representative had said such a visit would be inappropriate at present but had suggested that a United Nations official be sent to observe next week's independence elections.

Reuter.

## US envoy meets Palestinians

Jerusalem, Feb 19

Mr Donald McHenry, the United States representative at the United Nations, had lunch today with three Palestinian leaders from the occupied West Bank of Jordan.

Mr McHenry, who is on a Middle East fact-finding tour, met in east Jerusalem Mr Elias Fakhri, mayor of Bethlehem, Mr Anwar Nusseibeh, a former Jordanian Defence Minister, and Mr Hikmat Al-Masri, a notable from the West Bank town of Nablus.

Mr Nusseibeh refused several requests to meet with Mr Sol Linowitz, special United States delegate to other Palestinian autonomy talks he told reporters: "Ambassador McHenry represents his country before the United Nations which is an international body while Ambassador Linowitz came here for a specific purpose within a specific framework which I do not accept."

Palestinian leaders have rejected the Camp David accord signed by Egypt, Israel and the United States which gave autonomy for the Palestinians in occupied Arab territories.

Mr al-Masri said: "We are not optimistic about the United States position, because the United States is supporting Israel although it is against the unification of Jerusalem and settlements (on occupied Arab land)."

Petition fails: The Israeli Supreme Court rejected today a petition by Arab West Bank residents for an injunction to halt the expansion of a Jewish settlement in the occupied area.

Twenty-four Arab residents of Hebron had asked the court to stop the reconstruction work at the Jewish suburb of Kiryat Arba.

The court ruled that the petitioners had not proved ownership of the land, which the Israeli Government says is state-owned. The court, however, gave them five days to submit their case to the military appeals court for further action.

Reuter.

## Demand for release of Corsicans

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Feb 19

The families of 36 people held since the violent disturbances in Corsica last month have been mounting a strong campaign for their release. Today, a delegation of 20 women, wives or other relatives of the prisoners, called on the Prefect of southern Corsica to ask his help in obtaining their rapid release from prison in Paris.

The arrests followed the strong police action in Ajaccio and Bastia after militant autonomists took opponents hostage and then captured an hotel. The 36 arrested there were in addition to 55 other Corsican nationalists already serving sentences.

Pressure for the release of all these prisoners has not resulted in the takeover of five village council offices on the island, and none of the mayors involved have asked for any police help to evict the occupiers.

Seven mayors from villages which are the homes of some of the prisoners went to see the Prefect of upper Corsica last week to tell him of the "anxiety of the people" in the face of the detention of so many breadwinners.

M. Jean Claude Thin, the examining magistrate investigating the January violence, has so far ordered the release of 20 prisoners.

## Jail terms increased on appeal

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Feb 19

Paul Petrides, a former Cypriot tailor who became a leading authority on the French painter Utrillo and proprietor of an art gallery in Paris, had a sentence for theft and receiving lengthened by the court of appeal here yesterday.

Mr Petrides, who is 79, was sentenced to three years' jail and fined 30,000 francs (£3,300) by the lower court last April. Now he has to serve four years and pay 50,000 francs in fines.

Marc Francouze, the middle man between two brothers who originally stole the 31 paintings involved from a collector in 1972 and passed them on to a painter, Claude Fenouillet, also appeared against sentences of three years and a 5,000 franc fine. He was given the same jail term but had his fine increased to 15,000 francs.

The two brothers, Patrick and Jean-Pierre Villard, who had been discharged by the lower court, were both found guilty by the appeal court and warrants were issued for their arrest to serve five-year sentences and pay fines of 5,000 francs each.

M. Fenouillet, who took the paintings to Mr Petrides had also his sentence increased from two years to three and his fine from 5,000 to 10,000 francs.

## M Barre urges industry to maintain buying power

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Feb 19

M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, issued a rough warning to the captains of industry today that if they were to allow salary rises to absorb entirely the gains of productivity they could count on neither credit facilities, protectionist measures nor a strong currency.

Speaking to the Association of Friends of the French Republic he said that the main reason for purchasing power was in these circumstances becoming more and more of an ambitious objective. The idea of maintaining salaries at a level above the rise in the cost of living has been a professed cornerstone of M Barre's economic philosophy.

He was not totally disheartened, however. He was

sure that the vigour of French industry, high productivity and the progress of the French economy as a whole would make the objective possible on the condition that they must steer clear, as they have done up to now, of excessive claims and exaggerated influences.

The Prime Minister also spoke of a six-point foreign policy for France. This was to renounce of purchasing power was in these circumstances becoming more and more of an ambitious objective. The idea of maintaining salaries at a level above the rise in the cost of living has been a professed cornerstone of M Barre's economic philosophy.

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## Nation in decline but oil reserves viewed with envy

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, Feb 19

Britain's membership of the EEC posed the same type of problems as a heart transplant operation, with a periodic danger of rejection, the French Academy of Moral and Political Sciences was told last night.

The analogy was drawn by M René Dabernat, a French journalist who is a specialist on Britain. His book, *Messieurs les Anglais*, published in 1976, is a standard work on the subject.

According to his paper, Britain, after dominating the world, has been showing signs of decline for the past 20 years; a decline linked to the loss of the empire. Internally the blame lay with an aging industry and the cost of an over ambitious Welfare State.

Now after nearly 300 years turned towards the world at large, Britain had turned to

Europe by joining the EEC. Even so it had not forgotten its global horizons, despite seven years of Community membership.

From now on this meant that Britain had to find out if it could live without undoing itself and without undoing the Community as a whole.

M Dabernat showed the French envy of Britain's North Sea oil reserves. By 1985, he said, this would mean that it would be the only industrialized country in the world which was self-sufficient in energy.

But if recovery is to be complete, he said, the cost of the Welfare State and the power of the unions must be reduced.

However accurate his words may or may not be, M Dabernat's views are very much those that persist within both the French Government and population as a whole.

The black squares represent the Patriotic Front assembly areas in Southern Rhodesia where a total of 480 Commonwealth troops are stationed. The crosses are airstrips.

## Britain plans a phased withdrawal

By Henry Stanhope

Defence Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence has drawn up plans for a phased, eight-day withdrawal of British and Commonwealth troops from Southern Rhodesia after this month's election. Soldiers in the 14 assembly areas must be moved quickly, however, if trouble breaks out.

The operation is expected to start after voting has ended on February 23, three days before the results of the election are due to be announced.

During the initial three-day phase most of the 1,400-strong Commonwealth monitoring group will be withdrawn to

Salisbury airfield where a tented transit camp is already being prepared.

Priority will be given to bringing back, by helicopter or by road, the 480 troops who are living next to the Patriotic Front men in the 14 assembly areas, most of them deep in the bush near the Rhodesian frontiers.

Then the troops and essential stores will be taken by air back to Britain, while other equipment will return more slowly by rail and sea.

Because of the use of surface transport, the airlift will be less intense than that which flew the monitoring group to Rhodesia at the start of the ceasefire.

Present plans include 24 sorties by Hercules transport aircraft, 13 by VC10s and only two by American Galaxies, which again will have to be hired to carry the RAF's Puma helicopters. Three VC10s will be ready on the airfield when the first troops arrive in Salisbury before returning to Britain.

A small party will remain behind for a time, however, including Major-General John Achard, who has commanded the Commonwealth monitoring group, some of his senior officers and other key personnel like communications specialists.

## Thatcher plea to athletes

By George Clark

Political Correspondent

In a letter to Sir Denis Flislow, chairman of the British Olympic Association, released last night, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said that if British athletes took part in the Moscow Olympics this summer they would seem to be condoning an international crime committed by the Soviet Union by its invasion of Afghanistan.

"We therefore ask," she wrote, "that the British Olympic Association should accept the advice of the Government in this matter, and reflect it in your response to the invitation of the Moscow Organizing Committee to take part."

Mrs Thatcher said she fully understood the difficulties faced by the International Olympic Committee and by the B.O.A. in considering the moving of the games from Moscow to some other venue or venues. Nevertheless, the Government had decided that its advice to British athletes must be not to go to Moscow.

Mrs Thatcher added: "We fully recognize the practical and constitutional difficulties involved in making changes to the present arrangements. We are deeply conscious of the disappointment which will be felt by British sportsmen and women."

"But the British Olympic Association, and the athletes whom you represent, must be aware that the decision to hold the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow is already being presented by the Soviet Government as a general acknowledgement of the historical importance and correct foreign policy of the USSR and of the huge services of the Soviet Union to peace."

This, she said, was a foretaste of the way the Kremlin hoped to exploit the propaganda value of the games.

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## Chemist believes tests on Shroud shift burden of proof to sceptics

Continued from page 1

on the cloth. The marks are of two basic kinds: ruddy-coloured areas traditionally described as "blood stains" and shaded areas, the pattern of the head and body of a man.

Research points to the presence in the cloth of the substance saponaria officinalis, used in ancient times to treat linen to soften it and also to mould and bactericide. The "blood stains" are not the colour of very old dried blood, but tests have shown that a colour closer to the Shroud's "blood stains" can be achieved in laboratory conditions if blood is exposed to saponaria officinalis before it ages.

Additional tests on the "blood stains" show that whatever caused them appear to have been a viscous fluid, present as minute globules of organic matter. These stains have penetrated to the back of the cloth, which cannot normally be seen because of a sheet of backing material fixed to the Shroud in the sixteenth century.

Dr Dinegar says no test has yet proved that the globules are real bloodstains. "This is not to say that all tests have always failed," he says. "The positive results are as yet not sufficient to confirm the presence of haematinic material."

These marks are quite different from the "image" of a head and body, which has also been studied by the latest

scientific techniques. The tests appear to discredit various obvious explanations of these marks.

No evidence has been found of any point or similar matter on the parts of the cloth bearing the image. The image is not fluorescent, and fibres bearing it are discoloured only several micrometres deep, on the top surface of each fibre.

There is no mark of this kind on the side of an individual fibre or on the back, indicating that the cause was not likely to be the application of liquid or vapour.

Dr Dinegar states: "While we search for additional hypotheses and information, we seem to be led with the tenuous suggestion that the cloth may have been discoloured in the manner we observe by a rapid deposition of energy in the fibres. At the increased temperature brought about by the energy transfer, chemical reactions could produce different substances that would make an area appear dark."

He likens this to the darkening of sugar, and says one line of research is that the darkening is caused by the caramelization of a glycoside from saponaria officinalis.

Linen impregnated with this and exposed to radiant energy, in the form of heat or laser bursts, undergoes a darkening of the surface, it has been found.

## Restoring Uganda's ravaged wildlife

By Tony Samstag

The New York Zoological Society

During President Idi Amin's eight-year rule discipline in the national parks was non-existent and, according to the report, "Amin's army, desperate for foreign currency to buy weapons, carried out systematic trophy poaching." In the Kabalega Falls national park alone, the poachers are thought to have killed 12,000 elephants in three years, about one per cent of the population estimated at 14,000.

In April last year, while the Amin troops were devastating Kabalega, Tanzanian soldiers were entering Rwenzori Park, where, in collaboration with Ugandan civilians, they are thought to have slaughtered almost a third of the 46,000 large mammals.

With ammunition almost unlimited, sport also took its toll. Abominable diseases of hippo, antelope and buffalo were killed, with perhaps 50 lion as well, before Dr Julius Nyerere, the Tanzanian President, announced severe punishments for any soldiers who shot animals.

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## Fears of Iran hold-up in release of hostages

From Michael Leppman

New York, Feb 19



## OVERSEAS

## Russia sharpens its warnings to Norway over Nato exercise and creation of an 'arc of crisis'

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, Feb 19.—In their bluntest warning yet to Norway, the Russians today accused the Oslo Government of deliberately trying to worsen Soviet-Norwegian relations and of helping the Americans create an arc of crisis on the Soviet frontier in the north to complement that in the south.

An article in *Pravda* signed, with a pseudonym used to express the views of the Soviet leadership, said Norway was joining in Washington's anti-Soviet course "without giving thought to the possible implications of this step."

Following the increasingly sharply-worded daily attacks on Norway in the Soviet Press over the forthcoming Nato exercises there next month, the paper accused the Norwegian Government of deliberately allowing itself to be drawn into "unfriendly acts" against the Soviet Union.

The paper said this was no coincidence since Norway supported the Nato decision to deploy new nuclear missiles in Western Europe, which it said were intended to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union. Norway also supported the campaign to disrupt the Moscow Olympics and had cancelled planned meetings and contacts with the Soviet Union.

"The ruling circles of Norway are actually serving as accessories to the adventurist line pursued by the Carter Administration aimed at destroying international détente and unleashing a cold war."

The Russians are particularly worried about the present discussions between Norway and the United States on the stationing in Norway of enough American weapons and vehicles

to equip a brigade of 8,000 American soldiers.

*Pravda* repeated charges the Russians have made recently that military bases were being set up on Norwegian soil which would remain after the Nato exercise "Anorak Express" was over.

"Norway's transformation into an arsenal of foreign offensive weapons openly aimed at the Soviet Union cannot be described otherwise than as a departure of the Government from the principles of its own declared policy of not stationing foreign troops and nuclear weapons on Norwegian soil in times of peace—despite the assurances about a consistent observance of these principles repeatedly given by Norway."

An offer to negotiate all questions of disarmament in Europe was made last night by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

Speaking at an election meeting, he said the Russians were ready to go to the negotiating table if Nato repeated its decision to deploy new medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, or if its implementation was officially halted.

The offer, similar to that made by the Warsaw Pact foreign ministers in Warsaw last December, is marginally more flexible than Mr Gromyko's own earlier pronouncements. These insisted that Nato had removed the basis for any further talks by going ahead with its decision to deploy the weapons.

Mr Gromyko also called for a conference on military détente and disarmament in Europe, and said the Soviet Union would contribute to a successful meeting in Madrid of the countries that signed the Helsinki accords.

But Mr Gromyko's conciliatory language towards Europe was not matched by his remarks on the tension with the United States, which he blamed solely on the Americans. He said the Russians would not allow the Americans to obtain military superiority, and would draw the "appropriate conclusions" from Washington's tendency to play the China card.

Promising that the Russians would continue the search for agreement at the Vienna talks on troop reductions in Central Europe, Mr Gromyko said there was no road or path in the Soviet Union's bilateral relations with other states that would "become overgrown for lack of use."

"There is no outstanding issue of inter-state relations, no major international problems on which we would not be prepared for honest talks, for talks between equals," he said.

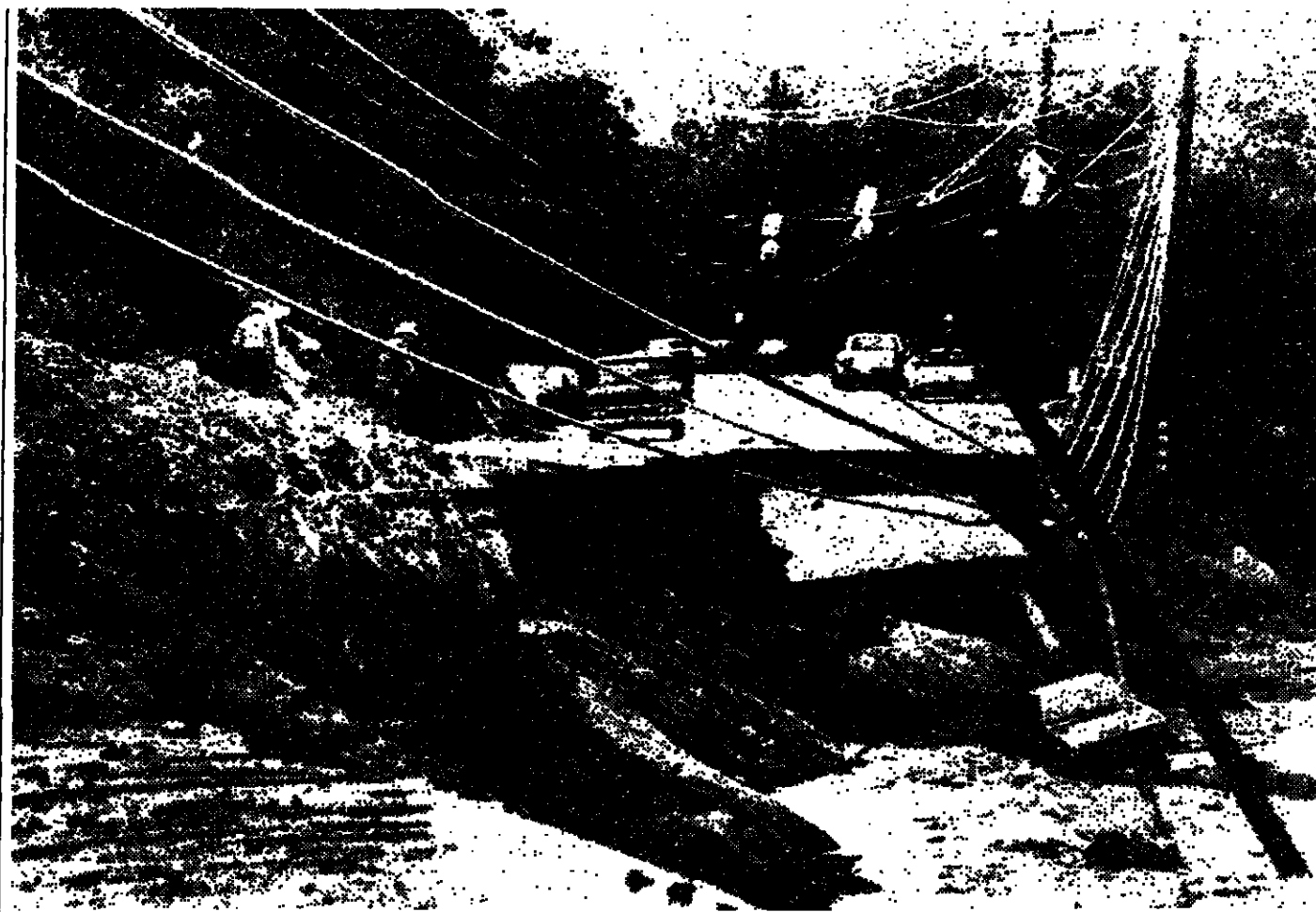
But the Soviet Minister gave no indication whether this would include Afghanistan or when Soviet troops would be withdrawn from that country.

Norway replied: Norway today rejected Soviet charges that it was departing from its policy of not accepting foreign troops and nuclear weapons on its territory in peacetime.

Mr Thorvald Stoltenberg, the Norwegian Defence Minister, said the question of storing military equipment had been a subject of consultation for two years and was nothing new.

The storing of tactical nuclear weapons had not been raised in the consultations, he said.

He added that Nato exercises of the "Anorak Express" type had taken place regularly over a number of years and that the Soviet Union, as usual, had been notified in the normal way.—*Reuter*.



A section of the road through Topanga Canyon in southern California after it was washed away during six days of torrential rain in which 12 people were killed.

## Zia plan to bring in civilians

From Hasan Akhtar

Islamabad, Feb 19.—President Zia ul-Haq, of Pakistan, is expected to reveal his political plan for the country at the end of the month at a convention of leading figures from different walks of life.

He told reporters at Lahore airport today that the proposed national convention would be convened in the next 10 days. He did not elaborate on its objectives, but indicated that the Government would invite people regarded as leaders in different spheres of life. They would include public men, lawyers, businessmen and journalists among others.

According to reports, the convention might pave the way for setting up cabinets and advisory councils at federal and provincial levels to help the martial law regime to broaden its base and associate civilians with government.

It is, however, likely that the proposed arrangement will function under martial law and though the proposed cabinets and advisory councils are intended to act as substitute for elected governments and assemblies, they would have purely consultative status. General Zia apparently does not contemplate a return to representative government through general elections for a long time to come.

General Zia parried question on a possible dialogue with the Soviet Union on Afghanistan and said it was a sensitive issue on which he would not say anything prematurely. He was asked by reporters whether Pakistan proposed to open talks with the Soviet Union on a basis of equality of sovereignty.

Lieutenant-General Fiaz Ali Chaudhry, a minister in Zia's Cabinet, left suddenly for an unnamed Arab state on an undisclosed important mission for the President, the press reported today.

Official sources refused to say anything on the subject.

## Anger over Indian dissolutions

From Richard Wigg

Delhi, Feb 19.—The bold decision of Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, to dissolve the legislative assemblies and call for fresh elections in nine states under non-Congress governments came under fire today from *The Times of India*, which has resolutely supported her since she launched her election campaign on December 1.

In a leading article it complained that the move not only "adversely affects" India's federal constitution but that the Prime Minister had espoused the "dubious concept of recall of governments no longer enjoying popular support propounded by the late Jyotiraj Narayan, which she had 'rightly and stoutly' opposed in 1974 and 1975."

It was no good for Mrs Gandhi to argue that the Janata Government after its victory in the 1977 general election did not last in nine states then ruled by Congress, Janata, the article said, did not possess the necessary experience to realize "what a dangerous precedent they were setting."

Referring to the Supreme Court verdict which Janata subsequently obtained, and which Mrs Gandhi's aides are now using, the newspaper notes that two of the judges made observations endorsing the concept of recall "which they may now be regretting."

"To legitimize the concept of recall is to sow the seeds of trouble in the future", *The Times of India* warns Mrs Gandhi. It quoted earlier examples in her political career where she seemed to have understood that national and state elections can produce different results in a country as diverse as India and with the typical expectations of a developing nation.

India must learn to work "a variegated policy in which different parties with different programmes are in power in different parts of the country", it said.

It is becoming clear that Sunday night's Cabinet decision was taken with post preparation of the groundwork by Mrs Gandhi's Home and Law Ministers.

No one in the Government has been able to give dates for the state elections. Which since this country has been in a state of emergency since last August, obviously needs to be concluded as soon as possible.

But the Chief Election Commissioner has already started the process of bringing the electoral registers up to date and is not willing, apparently, to go back on this process to oblige the Government. It is unlikely to be completed before late April.

Mr Morarji Desai, the former Janata Prime Minister, who when in office was careful

to avoid direct personal criticism of Mrs Gandhi, has now joined in the chorus of disapproval.

Dissolution, he said in Ahmedabad, was undemocratic but all the steps so far taken by the Prime Minister, including various staff appointments in Uttar Pradesh and in Delhi indicated that Mrs Gandhi was "heading towards authoritarian rule."

Mrs Gandhi was today cautioned by Mr E. M. S. Namboodiripad, the veteran secretary general of the Marxist Communist Party, against turning to a presidential system of government in India. That might lead to a military take-over.

"If military rule is established even Mrs Gandhi and Mr Sanjay Gandhi (her son) would not be safe", he said pointing to the fate of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the late former Prime Minister of Pakistan.

Communist fears: West Bengal's Left Front Government led by the Marxist Communist Party fears that it will not long before Mrs Gandhi dismisses it (Our Calcutta Correspondent writes). Similar action is also feared in Kerala and Tripura, two other states where Marxist Communists are in power.

Protesters held: About 300 people have been arrested in Tamil Nadu for arson and rioting in protest against the dismissal of the state Government, the Press Trust of India reported today.—*Reuter*.

## Informer's deals set the FBI a problem

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is looking into whether a man it had employed as an informer used inside information about the United States Government's Abscam operation to work private swindles for his own financial gain.

Several California businessmen have accused the informer, whom they identified as Joseph B. Meltzer, of swindling them out of at least \$150,000 (about £55,000) by portraying himself as the representative of a wealthy Arab Sheikh who was willing to lend them money. In reality, the Sheikh never existed.

Mr Meltzer was an informer for the undercover investigation into alleged political corruption that was given the code name "Abscam" for "Arab Scam".

Some of the businessmen who dealt with Mr Meltzer, said that he had portrayed himself as a top executive of Abdul Enterprises, the same company that the undercover federal agents in the Abscam operation said that they represented.

Moreover, in interviews in San Diego with *The New York Times*, the businessmen said they believed Mr Meltzer had actually been working with the cooperation of the bureau and had identified himself sometimes as an FBI informer at other times as an undercover agent.

Some also said that until recently they believed the bureau was assisting Mr Meltzer in bringing the shah's enormous fortune into America for investment.

Asked for comment, Mr Homer A. Ryon, Executive Assistant Director of the FBI in Washington, said that at the time of Mr Meltzer's alleged West Coast activities, he had no association with the FBI.

When details of the federal investigation became public two weeks ago, some of the California businessmen said they were shocked to discover many similarities between that operation and Mr Meltzer's. They said they began to consider the possibility that Mr Meltzer, while working for the FBI, had embarked on a private Arab scam.

Furthermore, they said that they had informed the FBI earlier about what Mr Meltzer was doing, but that the bureau had not stopped him or warned them not to trust him.

Mr Meltzer, asked whether he had accepted money from businessmen to whom he had promised loans, said: "Maybe yes, maybe no." He conceded that "in the past I was representing Abdul Enterprises, but that I really couldn't tell you in what capacity."—*New York Times News Service*.

## Australia to boost armed forces

Canberra, Feb 19.—Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, announced today that Australia's armed services will get more men and better equipment because of the Soviet Union's intervention in Afghanistan.

Mr Fraser told the Australian Parliament the build-up would cost at least an extra \$455m (£46m) in the year beginning July 1. Defence spending would increase to 3 per cent of gross national product by 1985. Australia's current defence budget of \$43,000m amounts to about 2.7 per cent of the gross national product.

In an hour-long speech Mr Fraser outlined a five-year programme to increase the permanent strength of the Army reserve from 22,000 to 30,000, to upgrade weapon systems on ships and aircraft, to increase Air Force and Navy patrolling of the Indian Ocean and waters near Australia, and to increase aid to South Pacific island nations.

Mr Fraser said the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan was the greatest international crisis since the Second World War. "The Government has decided that the new strategic prospects call for a greater allocation of resources to our defences", he said.

Mr Fraser said aid to South Pacific nations, including allowances for increased surveillance facilities, would go up by 40 per cent to \$420m to head off possible Soviet moves to gain influence in the area. Australia has also offered the United States staging facilities at the Cockburn naval base, Western Australia, he added.

Australia wanted to increase its order for guided missile frigates from the United States from three at a total cost of about \$475m.

The Government would also announce later this year its choice for 75 tactical fighter aircraft to replace its Mirage fighters. —*Reuter*.

## Brandt plea for communist help to Third World

Brussels, Feb 19.—Herr Willy Brandt, chairman of the International Development Commission, today urged communist states to play a greater role in helping the Third World.

The former West German Chancellor was answering questions on the second day of a European Parliament hearing on hunger after outlining his commission's report for the first time in Europe.

He said that as time passes, China, the Soviet Union and East Europe "must take a greater share of the responsibility. We must try wherever possible to make clear to the East that they have a responsibility, not just to export propaganda."

The commission, set up in 1977 at the recommendation of Mr Robert McNamara, President of the World Bank, has drafted a lengthy analysis and recommendations on development.

Among its proposals is a world conference to draft guidelines for cooperation between industrialized and developing countries and to work out details of an emergency development programme for 1980-85.

The commission also gives warning of the crippling cost of the arms race. "We are literally in danger of arming ourselves to death", Herr Brandt said today.

He was elected to the European Parliament last June and is one of several development experts addressing the hearing.—*Reuter*.

## Large number of lakes in US polluted by industry

Washington, Feb 19.—Two thirds of the lakes in the United States may be seriously polluted by toxic industrial wastes, a report by the Council on Environmental Quality said today.

It said there was increased evidence of ground water contamination often caused by the improper disposal of harmful wastes. About half of the population uses ground water for drinking.

"Wastes introduced into a lake can remain for years if not centuries", the council said. As many as two thirds of the nation's lakes may have serious pollution problems as a result.

"Urban lakes are particularly susceptible to man's influence. An estimated 80 per

cent of more than 3,700 urban lakes in the United States are significantly degraded."

It said toxic chemicals had made fish inedible in many lakes and rivers, while four million acres of commercial shellfish waters in America had been closed by pollution.

Many lakes in the north-eastern United States and Canada could no longer support fish and other life because of increased rain acidity, resulting from the 50-fold increase in fossil fuel power plants in the last 25 years.

But the report found overall improvements in the quality of air between 1974 and 1977, the last year for which it had figures, mainly because of better exhaust filters on cars.—*Reuter*.

## Two Koreas disagree on site for talks

From Jacqueline Reditt

Seoul, Feb 19.—North and South Korea failed to agree on the main item under discussion when they met for two and a half hours at the truce village of Panmunjom today.

For the second time this month, three-man delegations from the two Koreas met for talks. The first meetings between Mr Li Jong Ok, the North Korean Prime Minister, and Mr Shin Byon Hwak, his South Korean counterpart, the main purpose of today's talks was to decide a site for the meeting.

A letter sent by the Pyongyang Government on January 11 gave the South Koreans the choice of Seoul and Pyongyang, Panmunjom or a third country.

The South Koreans opted for a third country, with a preference for Geneva. But in today's talks the North Koreans appeared to have forgotten their earlier offer and, reading from prepared texts, insisted that the meetings should be held alternately in Seoul and Pyongyang.

The South Korean delegation argued that at least one meeting should be held in the two Prime Ministers should be on neutral

ground. The South Koreans have already expressed a fear that the North will try to send a large delegation with their Prime Minister to turn the meeting into a propaganda session, they say, has happened before.

Mr Lee Dong Bok, a spokesman for the South Korean delegation, told journalists that today's talks were a "contact" rather than a business meeting. Although the two sides had disagreed on the venue, the atmosphere had been amicable, some minor procedural items had been agreed and the two sides had decided to hold a further session on March 4.

## Campaign to ban atom links with S Africa

By Pearce Wright  
Science Editor

A new campaign to ban all collaboration with South Africa in the field of nuclear power is being launched today with the publication of a pamphlet entitled *South Africa's Nuclear Capability*.

The document catalogues Pretoria's resources in the atomic energy field including uranium mines, research reactors, uranium enrichment plants and plans for a nuclear power station at Koeberg, near Cape Town.

Mr Abdul S. Minty, director of the World Campaign Against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa, says that although the country's nuclear capacity is far advanced, it is still at the initial stage of its atomic weapons programme.

## Sanjay Gandhi challenges court order

Delhi, Feb 19.—Delhi High Court today admitted petitions by Mr Sanjay Gandhi, younger son of Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, and two others challenging orders that they be put on trial for alleged offences during his mother's emergency rule.

The three, who include Delhi's new lieutenant-governor, are accused of conspiring in the illegal demolition of shops and houses. Mr K. P. Verma, the chief metropolitan magistrate, earlier this month overruled a plea by Mr Gandhi's lawyers that the charges be dropped because they were filed more than three years after the incident.

But lawyers today asked that the plea be put on for consideration the delay in filing the charges be dismissed as it was based on "vague allegations". —*Reuter*.

## Thailand urges Americans to give aid in good time

From Neil Kelly

Bangkok, Feb 19.—General Kriangsak Chavan-mun, the Thai Minister of Defence, today urged the United States to give assistance to Thailand now and not to wait until it is too late, as happened in the case of Vietnam.

His remarks coincided with a statement by the American Defence Department that Washington was not engaged in "any new or increased deployment of military personnel in Thailand."

Commenting on reports that 852 bombers were being sent to Thailand, the Defence Department spokesman told a Bangkok newspaper: "With respect to the deployment of 852s, it is not our practice to discuss contingency planning."

General Kriangsak's remarks were made to Mrs Clare Booth Luce, the American writer and former Ambassador, now visiting Bangkok. "If the United States starts giving assistance to Thailand now it will not have to spend considerable amounts of money later as it had to do in Vietnam", the general said.

Unofficial reports indicate that American and Thai officials are discussing the reopening of former American bases in the country and the occasional deployment of American bombers and ships.

The number of American personnel in Thailand recently increased from less than 50 to 126. Most of them are engaged in training and weapon maintenance. Last year, Thailand purchased

more than £200m worth of weapons from the United States, nearly five times more than in 1978. America has accelerated deliveries since Vietnam invaded Kampuchea 14 months ago.

Among the new weapons already delivered are the first 15 of 50 heavy tanks on order, 20 F-15 fighter-bombers, large numbers of 105mm howitzers, anti-tank missiles, machine guns, rifles, ammunition and communications equipment.

Stranded refugees: A group of 24 Vietnamese refugees, still stranded on board a Bermuda-registered supertanker which arrived in Singapore 10 days ago, are waiting for a country to offer them resettlement. United Nations refugee officials said in Singapore.

The 134,000-ton Port Hawkesbury picked up the refugees, including 12 children, from a filthy boat in the South China Sea on January 29, while the tanker was on its way to Taiwan.

Singapore does not allow a vessel to unload Vietnamese "boat people" without a guarantee that they will be resettled in a third country within three months. The guarantee is usually given by the country where the ship is registered.

A British Embassy official said that the local authorities in Bermuda—a British-dependent territory—had been asked to consider the matter.

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## World use of energy 'grossly unbalanced'

The fourth in a series of articles on the report of the Brandt Commission

By Roger Berthoud

From the tone of their chapter on energy, and from other indications, it can be deduced that Herr Brandt and the industrialised "north" and the developing countries of the "south" who formed his commission had some difficulty in reconciling their views on this topic.

The economics of oil, they point out in their report, have been controversial since the first commercial strike of oil in Pennsylvania in 1857. But it is now widely accepted that during the 1940s, when industrialised countries and a few developing ones were rapidly expanding their use of cheap oil, its price failed to reflect the depletion of resources. Oil was 25 per cent cheaper in 1970 in relation to the price of other goods than in 1955.

A higher price was essential to restrain consumption and to help the consideration of long-term needs and the development of alternative fuels.

The use of energy in the world remains grossly un-

balanced, the Brandt Commission's report states. One American uses as much commercial energy as two Germans or Australians, three Swiss or Japanese, nine Mexicans, 16 Cubans, 16 Chinese, 19 Malaysians, 43 Indonesians, 109 Sri Lankans, 438 Malians, or 1,072 Nepalese.

All the fuel used by the Third World for all purposes is only slightly more than the amount of petrol used by the industrialised world to move its cars.

Developing countries which import oil derive about two thirds of their commercial energy from it, higher proportion than the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development countries (a half).

While the North's consumption of commercial energy doubled between 1960 and 1976, that of developing countries tripled, but it was still only one fifteenth of consumption in the Western world.

About a quarter of the world's commercial energy today is oil produced by the members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries. The producers believe that future generations will hold them to blame

if they fail to manage this precious resource.

For oil exporters with a capital surplus, there is also the problem of what they receive in return. Both the health of the dollar and the long-term value of assets acquired are critical factors, to be weighed against the arguments for keeping a depletable and increasingly valuable resource underground.

Even if much new oil is discovered, the transfer to other energy sources will have to take place uncomfortably soon, the report says. Ultimately the human community must rely on inexhaustible sources: solar energy in the broadest sense, and new forms of nuclear energy, supplementing hydro-electric and geothermal sources.

The nuclear option must be evaluated rationally and soberly. Research on a large scale is needed to develop low-cost solar energy technology, which at some point could make many developing countries relatively well off in energy terms.

The need for an international accommodation to avert such dangers as supply disruptions and price surges has been recognized since the crisis of 1973. But Opec sees oil as only part of the broader prob-

lem of a restructuring of the world economy, to include fairer terms for other commodities and a fairer distribution of the world's resources.

The Brandt Commission suggests that any arrangement between oil producers and consumers should include all countries, not least the Soviet Union, which produces more oil than any other country and is the second largest exporter after Saudi Arabia.

The report advocates the establishment of a global energy research centre under United Nations auspices, to concentrate on renewable sources of energy. It believes there should be contingency plans to protect the most vulnerable developing countries in the event of acute scarcity.

It proposes an emergency programme to get agreement on more secure supplies, more rigorous conservation, more predictable price-changes and more effective steps to develop alternative sources.

Finally, it unequivocally rejects the use of force by powerful countries to secure oil supplies. Any such intervention would put world peace in jeopardy, Herr Brandt and his colleagues say.



## Football

By Martin Tylene

## Cormack takes over from Best at Hibernian

## Boxing

John L. Gardner, the British and Commonwealth heavyweight champion, will meet Belgium's Rudi Gawe, for the vacant European title, at the Royal Albert Hall on April 22. This will be Gardner's first attempt on the European crown. He was hoping to win it at the 1966 world championship. Larry Holmes, but his ambitions were ruined by a points defeat against Jimmy Young of the United States, at Wembley last year.

Gardner and Gawe are not the leading contenders for the European title. They are rated three and four respectively behind Lorenzo Zanon and Alfio Righetti, of Italy, but the European Boxing Union's secretary, Mike Barrett, yesterday said that Zanon had a 52:0 record.

Roy Gumsby, who retained his Southern Area middleweight title by knocking out Jimmy Miller of London's World Sporting Club on Monday night, will shortly be off to the Bahamas to help John Gumbel repel a challenge from a young world championship return bout with Matthew Saad Muhammad. After that Gumsby plans to concentrate on British title challenge.

If, as expected, Kevin Finnegan, the new European champion, gives up his British crown, then Gumbel would be one of the favourites to box Tony Sibson for the vacant championship. Gumsby's manager, Bernard Hart, said: "Roy is going to join Gumbel. In the meantime, he has gone off to Atlantic City to fight Saad Muhammad. Obviously, the British title is our main aim. We will perform very well there, but it may well be Sibson, if we get the chance."

Lucas, out of boxing for 10 months, is eyeing a comeback. He said: "I don't know what the future holds for me. It is about time I started to get going. I've got a good record and I want to go."

Oguma challenge: Japan's Shigeo Oguma will challenge the World Boxing Council's flyweight champion, Park Chan-choon of Korea, in a 15-round title match to be held on May 4 in Seoul, his home town. Kimura was announced yesterday.

This is Oguma's seventh crack at a world title and Park is defending his crown for the fifth time.

—Agencies.

Tokyo, Feb. 19. On the face of it, James Callaghan appears an unlikely boxing champion. A college education and good looks are not usually associated with boxers, but Callaghan has made a habit of being unconventional. In his first professional fight, he won a title and in his fourth, despite his name, he became middleweight champion of Japan.

Callaghan, aged 35, was born in Yokohama of a British father and Japanese mother and took up amateur boxing at the age of 16 when the family moved to Liverpool. He has won 23 titles, including 12 knockouts, in 23 bouts he never made any headlines and returned to Japan where he has a professional record of 12-0.

In November 1978 he won the middleweight "rookie" title by knocking out Eiji Tanaka in the fifth round. Two more impressive victories took him to a title contest against a defending champion, "Dynamite" Don King. He became the first Briton to take a Japanese national title when he won a knockout in his home town on Nov. 10.

For the time being, however, Alan Minter and the world middleweight champion, Vinny Pazienza, were met in Las Vegas on March 16, have little fear from Japan's great white hope. Callaghan's manager, Ted Spedding, said: "The fight will still have some way to go before reaching world class. 'He must fight outside Japan, unlike other Japanese boxers who only fight at home,'" Kawai said.

## Treacy brothers selected

**John Treacy**, twice winner of the individual title, and his brother, **Pat**, are in the Republic of Ireland team for the world cross country championships in Paris on March 9. The brothers, from Waterford, are both students at Providence State College, Rhode Island.

**John Treacy** first won the title in Glasgow in 1978 and retained it at Limerick last year. Another Waterford man, the national cross-country champion, has also been selected for the team.

**John Woods**, who is based in Liverpool, and Pat O'Callaghan of Limerick are both newcomers. Eamon Coghlan, now competing in America, is not available. The only newcomer in the women's team is Dublin's Megan, aged 16, a Dublin schoolgirl whose father plays soccer for Everton and the Republic.

**TEAMS:** N. Coughan (Limerick), D. McKeown (Waterford), D. McElreath (Limerick), P. O'Callaghan (Limerick), J. Treacy (Waterford), R. Treacy (Waterford), G. Woods (Dublin), M. Coghlan (Dublin), S. Coghlan (Dublin), B. Coghlan (Dublin), J. Treacy (Dublin).

## Blackpool

Clubs hoping to persuade Alan

## McNichol back in Scotland

### Today's fixtures

Show jumping

## British team

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

At the halfway stage in the run-down to the World Cup Volvo, after five out of 11 competitors have been eliminated, David Broome is out in front with 32 points, followed by Derek Rice (29), and Johnnie Carson and Bradley (26), a good omen for three quarters of the team that are - world and European champions, and would have been favourites for the British Olympic gold medals, had they not been induced to turn professional.

John Schockemöhle shares fourth place, on 12 points, with his compatriot Heinrich-Wilhelm Johannmann and Eddie Macken. The German duo are tied with the individual champion Gerd Wiltfang, ties seventh on 10 points, all of them gained at Olympia (Broome scored 10 points at the World Cup and again in Bordeaux). Of the other British riders involved, Tim Grubb is equal eleventh with six and Robert Smith and Elizabeth Edgar and others, on five. John Whitaker, Nicholas Skelton, and Smith's sister, Susan, are

Canadian—Marble Laskie (20),  
1930; and (13) and Ian Miller  
(13). In the newly created Pacific  
league, Marianne Gilchrist won  
in Sydney and in Dapto, Australia,  
and is qualified to compete in the  
final with her runner-up, John  
Faley.

Three shoes remain on the  
North American league—Palm  
Beach, which won the running, and  
two in Tampa, Florida. The  
situate the traditional Sunshine  
Circuit. The European league con-  
cludes on February 22, with Dor-  
mund, followed by Rotterdam,  
bosch, Antwerp, Vienna, Birming-  
ham and Göteborg. The final  
takes place in Baltimore, Mary-  
land, on April 1.

Irish shoe award: For the third  
successive year, a horse repre-  
senting Great Britain has won the

The horse's owners, Enid Whitaker and Malcolm Barr, will receive the award before the World Amateur qualifier at the Birmaschem international event on April 6.

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### First for Scotland

Scotland will host the European amateur team golf championship for the first time next year at St Andrews from June 27 to July 1, expected that 20 countries will take part.

From John Hennessy

**It is a long climb  
to the bottom of  
the skiing slopes**

When he got to this mountain village the frustrations did not stop. He was told that the coach from San Jose, who lacked a staff and a coach in his first ever international race. But he quickly found two co-coaches and friends.

Austrians gave him his skis; Americans gave him course tips and a compass; Czechs gave him cash after a spill; and Koreans carried warm clothes to the finish line for him.

After a few setbacks, Kinch kept practicing. It was the first time Costa Rica had competed. He had to practice for 10 days, finished next to last among a dozen men in the men's downhill.

Yesterday, he leg taped and injured his right knee. He was tipped a gate in the giant slalom and fell into a snowbank. He did not finish the race, but he was on the podium in the slalom. Kinch will not give in easily—not after all the trouble just getting to the game.

He said he was disappointed in the Canadian hopes of a medal in the complicated Olympic event. Their one-goal loss to the Czechs, he said, would mean they probably not finish in the top three division unless they can win the slalom.

Czechoslovaks defeated Germany 11-3 to keep their chance alive for a play-off. The Soviet Union will play the Czechs, while who joins the Americans in the play-offs.

The Finns played superb speed skating, but the Canadians helped the Russians to the puck in their performance was even more impressive considering their 1-4 loss to the Czechs. The Canadians were out-banded with players in the penalty box. Kirela turned out to be a 4 shot hero, scoring two of the three goals in total in the third period.

Jack de Foeer scored three goals in the first period, but the Netherlands again.

## All runners-up in the rain

**Tennis** Minnesota North Stars 6, Quebec 2.  
 Bruins 2, Canadiens 1.  
**BLUE DIVISION: Sweden**  
 1. Way 1.

Today's events

Figure skating  
1.0: Women's compulsory  
Nordic skiing  
2.0: Men's 4 x 10km relay.  
Speed skating  
3.0: Women's 3,000 metres.  
Alpine skiing  
4.0: Women's giant slalom.

**NATIONAL LEAGUE:** Hartford  
Whalers 6, New York Rangers 4; Los  
Angeles Kings 4, Detroit Red Wings 2;

	Depth (cm)		Piste	Conditions	Runs to resort	W (cm)
	L	U		piste	Fair	Fine
Andermatt	60	220	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine
Excellent skiing everywhere.						
Courmayeur	380	390	Fair	Varied	Fair	Cloudy
Ice on north facing slopes.						
Grindelwald	30	140	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine
Powder on north facing slopes.						
Isola 2000	110	150	Good	Varied	Good	Snow
Light snowfall all day.						
La Plagne	160	320	Good	Varied	Good	Fine
Powder on north facing slopes.						
Mürren	60	150	Good	Varied	Good	Fine
Good skiing on all slopes.						
St Anton	80	250	Good	Good	Good	Fine
Good skiing on all slopes.						
Seefeld	100	150	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine
New snow on hard base.						
Zermatt	45	150	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine
Excellent skiing above 2,000m.						
In the above snow reports "S" refers by representatives of the State of Great Britain to skiers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:						
	Depth (cm)	Weather				
NORWAY	L	U	Piste			
Flåse	140	130	Good	-13		
Trele	100	60	Good	-10		
Trondheim	110	110	Good	-10		
Lilhammer	112	112	Good	-7		
Narvik	118	118	Good	-7		
Oslø	110	110	Good	-7		
Voss	180	180	Good	-3		

## gold 54.22

Trueathlon is considered the most demanding of all Nordic disciplines, combining "cross-country" skiing with orienteering. The 50 competitors skiing the course had to stop twice, to shoot at 10 targets. Ulrich, who had won the gold medal two years, hit all five targets from the prone position, but missed twice in five seconds.

Ulrich had to ski two penalty loops of about 175 metres, which took him about a minute. He skied faster ahead of Alfinde, whose shooting was flawless. Ulrich completed the race in 53 minutes 53 seconds to beat the Russian by 42 seconds.

Allyshev, who shot perfectly to win the 20-kilometre race, ended up in a disappointing position and incurred one penalty loop for a time of 33 minutes 9 seconds. Ulrich, who had won the 53.1 seconds Klaus Siebert, East Germany's world 20-kilometre champion, was disappointed. "I was in the event last Saturday and ended up a disappointing 15th," he fared better today to get second place with 33 minutes 53 seconds.

"I still can't believe I won,"

**Lake District results**

**Bathalon**

10	KILOMETRES:	1.	F.	Ulrich
(EG)	32m.10.69sec.	2.	V.	Altid
(USSR)	32.03.10.	3.	A.	Alvayev
	54.09.14.	4.	K.	Siebert
(USSR)	55.33.44.	5.	K.	Norok
way.	55.33.44.	6.	K.	Zelinka
(Czechoslovakia)	55.45.20.	7.	O.	P.
(Lithuania)	55.45.39.	8.	A.	A.
	56.45.45.	9.	A.	A.
(Tikhonov)	56.45.34.	10.	E.	E.
(Antila)	56.45.22.	11.	E.	E.
(placings)	50	K.	Oliver	35.45.49.
(USSR)	58.30.09.	42.	P.	Gib.
(USSR)	58.30.09.	42.	P.	Gib.

**MEN'S COMBINED:** 1. U. Wehling (EG), 432,200 pts; 2. J. Karjalainen (Finland), 429,500; 3. K. Winkler (EG), 426,320; 4. T. Sandberg (Nor-

## Slattery unable to spare time for tour

provided the men to fill all three posts. Spring was less certain of selection but the problem No 8 places in the touring team become

Saturday's eight John Player Cup ties. London Scottish who beat Bedford last weekend, will be without Michael Biggar, Scotland's captain, when the two teams meet again in the cup. Biggar had to have a head wound sutured after the international with France. Wilson, who was a replacement at Murrayfield, returns at stand-off.

stitches to injuries in the first 10 minutes last Saturday, are hoping to play. Bedford definitely bring Waller back at centre and Martin returns at the second half.

Troughton and Rafter coming into the pack, and Harding named at scrum half, compared with the side of the day. The first of the match was a day, an England under-23 prop, it will be his first senior game for nearly five months after a lengthy absence from the field. For the first time named a party of 19 from which they will choose : the biggest doubt concerns Bell, a prop forward who was injured in the win against Wiltshire.

Moseley keep the team which beat Aberystwyth 55-0 last Friday for their tie with Leicester, with a new line-up. The first of the final. Cooper continues to lead the team from full back, with Perry playing at scrum half, Leicester set to start the game after straining on Thursday. Gillingham will be missing from the second row as he will be leaving the A.A. against the Army at Twickenham.

As Joyce will partner Rafter at lock, Leicester are hoping that Adey, the forward at Leicester, will have recovered from a knee injury. They are also checking the fitness of Johnson, an outside half, who has been out of the side in an ear injury received while playing for the British Police against the French Police 10 days ago.



Lake Placid, Feb. 19—Ingemar Stenmark of Sweden finally came out of the Olympic slalom skisuit when he survived his moment of truth on the White Mountain today. Stenmark, aged 26, was the model of calm consistency as he swept through the 63 gates on the second run to win the slalom, his first medal in the 1976 Olympics in Innsbruck.

The Swede, unbeaten in the giant slalom for two years, showed signs of nervousness when he brought an error in yesterday's

second run in a fall in the slalom and reduced him to a bronze medal, the first for which he was *Tirm* favourite.

His time was 1min 20.55sec in the second run. It gave him the winning time of 4m 40.40sec for a victory margin of three quarters of a second over Weizel, the silver medalist. He had clocked 1min 21.32 sec today for a total of 2min 41.49, with Ennals picking up the bronze. Ennals' time was 1min 22.05sec for a 2min 42.55sec total.

---

**Speed skating**

**Men's 1,000 metres:** 1. B. Heaton (USA), 1:41.15; 2. S. Boucher (Canada), 1:46.68; 3. S. Rasmussen (Norway); 4. V. Lobanov (USSR), 1:51.95; 5. P. Mueller (USA), 1:57.11; 6. B. De Jonge (Netherlands), 1:57.29; 7. A. Dietl (FRG), 1:57.73; 8. O. Gronah (Sweden), 1:57.74; 9. S. Holmberg (Sweden), 1:57.90; 10. B. Norlander (USA), 1:57.94.

**Artistic skating:** 1. A. Marshall (USA), placing; 2. A. Marshall (USA), placing; 3. A. Marshall (USA), placing; 4. A. Marshall (USA), placing; 5. A. Marshall (USA), placing; 6. A. Marshall (USA), placing; 7. A. Marshall (USA), placing; 8. A. Marshall (USA), placing; 9. A. Marshall (USA), placing; 10. A. Marshall (USA), placing.

**RED DIVISION:** Canada 6; Japan 0; Netherlands 3; Poland 3; Soviet Union 4, Finland 2

By Gordon Allan  
St Mary's 15 London 9  
St Mary's, the holders, reached the final of the Hospitals Cup competition for the third successive year, when they beat London by a goal, three penalty goals and a try to a goal and a penalty goal at Richmond yesterday. Their opponents on March 12 will be either St Bartholomew's or Westminster, who play tomorrow.

It was a remarkable performance well into the second half. At that point St Mary's led 9-6 and the London were pressing them hard. But in the 25th minute the home stand-off, using the Carryover kick to pin St Mary's back. Both St Mary's tries, in fact, started from the three minutes' respite.

The first was scored by Sweeney, with 20 minutes left. A wild London pass on St Mary's 22 was intercepted by Kitchin, who stepped out of two or three tackles and made 40 metres upfield before transferring the ball to Ralston. Ralston, who is a try scorer who, in spite of having little room in which to work, went over in the

right, scored unopposed in the same corner. Greenhalgh converted.

Greenhalgh also kicked St Mary's penalties and had the higher rate of success with his kicking than Alan Ralston of London. Allen missed more penalties (one hit a post from close range), but he did put the ball into the top of the goal from a game at 13-9 with a straight forward penalty, and in the first half converted a good try by Sweeney. He also converted a try by St Mary's at a scrumming inside their 22. The ball squirted out on the wrong side of the scrum, and the London half-back, and Condon, scooping it up, swerved through to the posts.

Alan Lewis is still in Rhodesia, but he would be a back soon to take his place at scrum-half. St Mary's in the final. St Mary's forwards played well yesterday, but the London half-backs showed with considerable effect. When Lewis is at their heels, they should be even better.

Sweeney, A. Thompson, J. Kitchin, Ralston, A. Williams, J. Davidson.

Keeping them in check: Briggs of The London gets the ball away from the St Mary's forwards.















[illegible]



# How many have you talked to lately?



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## ICFC



Bernard Levin

# Will free speech have the door slammed in its face?

There is a man with a beard in Holborn who really does believe in free speech, and since this is being penalised for such outrageous convictions, I thought I might break a lance for him today.

His name is Peter Cadogan, and he is a kind of Philosophical Anarchist in the sense meant by those words in the days when they both had meanings. He has been in and out of various political movements, including CND and its unruly offspring, the Committee of 100, but he is far too honest and open-minded a man ever to give his entire allegiance to any ideology, let alone to any political party. He is probably mad, but if so there are an awful lot of people I wish he would bite, starting with most of the members of Camden council. But Camden council's relevance comes later; I shall begin at the beginning.

Mr Cadogan is the general secretary of the South Place Ethical Society, whose base of operations is the Conway Hall, where I heard much fine chamber music of a Sunday evening in my youth, and some less harmonious strains only the other day when the London Free-Lance Branch of the NUJ held its annual general meeting there. It is an austere hall, in which frivolity would die on the lips of the frivolous; over the proscenium arch is inscribed the stern motto of Polo-

nus: TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE.

That invocation, however, Mr Cadogan and the society take seriously. The South Place Ethical Society has a fascinating history; it used to be a Unitarian chapel, but then turned itself into what is called "a free religious society", the members of which recognised—as they still recognize—only one philosophical and moral obligation: to seek the truth wherever it may be found, to bar no road at all to the seekers, and to bear in courtesy and in a spirit of enquiry any seeker who claims to have returned from the quest bearing a fragment of the treasure. *Felix qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas.*

Mr Cadogan says of the society that its Faith "is in the possibilities of human experience", its inspiration "stems from prophets and artists and our response to them", its belief is "that if we seek we shall find", its Philosophy "the way we integrate our understanding of religion, art, science and history", and its Vision "that we can live differently". This catalogue of ideas sums up the South Place Ethical Society very well, and it is not surprising that it has always enjoyed charitable status as a religious foundation.

Or rather, it has done so until recently. Following a legal decision in another matter to the effect that to be classed as a religious body a group must believe in a "Supreme Being", the society, which could

not maintain its members collectively believed in any such principle, if only because its members do not collectively believe in anything, was unable to convince the Charity Commissioners that it was nevertheless a religious body if the phrase means anything at all, and thus lost its charitable status.

Philosophically, that did not matter; financially it did. As a charitable body it could claim a rebate of roughly half the £8,000 rates it pays on Conway Hall; without that standing it cannot, and the £4,000 difference is simply not to be made up out of its slender income. Since the decision (while the society awaits the outcome of a ten-year legal battle to make the Charity Commissioners change their minds), the society's reserves have been used to close the gap; now these are almost exhausted, and other means must be found.

Mr Cadogan and his colleagues approached the Borough of Camden (in whose territory Conway Hall stands) for a grant of a sum roughly equivalent to what the council would have allowed by way of rate rebate—£4,000 a year. At first, the officials and councillors they spoke to were sympathetic, but then came the horrid revelation I referred to in my opening sentence: Mr Cadogan, and the South Place Ethical Society, believe in free speech.

I must explain that, in addition to the programme of lectures, meetings, discussions and other activities

A grant of £4,000 would not exactly bring down the wrath of Camden's district auditor

that the society itself operates, Conway Hall itself is always available for any organization wishing to use it for a gathering, at a reasonable fee. The only stipulations made are that the users of the hall shall do no harm, and that they shall not advocate or employ violence in the furtherance of their ends.

Within that ample room for manoeuvre, every imaginable kind of group, together with many which are quite impossible to imagine, have hired the Conway Hall to inform, declare, persuade, insist, denounce, assert, deny, declaim and even discuss, everything that can be thought by the human mind.

Many of these groups are non-

political, proclaiming their belief in the fairness of the earth, the dangers of fluoride or the benefits of vegetarianism. Many, of course, are religious. But many, too, are partly or wholly political, and subject to the connections I have mentioned, all are welcome. And it is not only democratic political bodies that have held the stage at Conway Hall; virtually all the totalitarian groups in our society have held meetings there, including the Socialist Workers' Party, the Communist Party, the International Marxist Group and the National Front.

And that, of course, is where the shoe pinches. After discovering that Mr Cadogan's philosophical integrity and commitment to free speech within the law really are absolute, so that the National Front, while though it is, was entitled to make its voice heard at Conway Hall just as much as the SWP or the CP, while though they are, Camden council, after much thought and the meeting of more than one committee, refused the appeal for a grant. Provided that the only totalitarian groups permitted at Conway Hall were of the left, the money would be forthcoming; in their narrow-mindedness, the council has refused the appeal for a grant. It is not as though Camden council has ever shown any sign of being careful with its ratepayers' money. Only last week it published a report which strongly deplored the council's "poor public image".

which, it complained, was "one of the main reasons for the council's poor public image". But he maintains that while and when it remains within the law, the freedom of thought and assembly and speech by which the society lives shall be available to it, just as these are available to the SWP or the CP while and when they remain within the law.

In a constitutionally governed society, says Mr Cadogan, "rotten values, mistaken ideas and ignorance within an atmosphere of freedom. The truth is ultimately more powerful than coercion". That, of course, is what I believe, too, and the electoral showing in Britain of totalitarianism of both left and right is powerful evidence in support of the view. Camden council, or at any rate a majority of its members, seem to think otherwise (this, of course, is to say nothing of those members who are themselves actually sympathetic to totalitarian ideas on the left), and the South Place Ethical Society may be compelled to close its premises in consequence.

It always knew that a commitment to free speech could be dangerous; now, it seems, it can also be expensive. But Mr Cadogan, if the worst happens, will be entitled to comfort himself, as he locks the doors of Conway Hall for the last time, by a last proud look at the words over the stage, and reflect that he has indeed to his own self been true.



Two examples of Graham Sutherland's work: right, detail from Landscape with Black Hills, and left, a portrait of the critic Edward Sackville-West

## Portrait of a man and his courage

As the train left Milford Haven and pulled past the estuary there, a cormorant was sitting on the dead trunk of an oak fallen at the water's edge. The scene was purest Graham Sutherland. After a day spent in the artist's company and looking at his work in the nearby Graham Sutherland Gallery at Picton Castle, it almost seemed a case of nature following art.

Precisely because he was never a literal painter, but worked in the deeply-mined borderland between reality and imagination, Graham Sutherland—who died on Sunday night—changed the way we look at certain things. It might be a dead branch, flotsam on a beach, a gorse bush, a road winding through distant hills; or these not much less remarkable landscapes, the faces of Somerset Maugham, Lord Beaverbrook, Helena Rubinstein, Lord Goodman or (perhaps his finest portrait) Edward Sackville-West. Once one knows his work, they are never the same again.

I first met Sutherland in 1961 and was struck as almost everyone was, by his quite amazing charm. That elusive compound was, in his case, perhaps a blend of perfect manners, an extraordinarily beautiful voice, romantic good looks, a flattering capacity to focus on one entirely, and yet a considerable sense of fun. With it came a slight but endearing nervousness, and a pair of ceaselessly alert eyes which, as a friend was later to remark, seemed constant to assess the precariousness of the next move.

We met again on a memorable day a few years later, when I was staying with Somerset Maugham at Cap Ferrat.

Sutherland came to lunch, I had tea with Lord Beaverbrook, drinks with Cootner and dinner back at Maugham's Villa Mauresque. It was possible to be dazzled by the glamour of Riviera life, and perhaps the Sutherlands were a bit so dazzled when they set out to live on the edge of Menton in 1955.

Two years ago an interview with Sutherland for *The Times* revealed that no biography of him existed. I decided to start one when *The Times* had suspended publication. Both Sutherland and Faber & Faber believed the idea. Over the past nine months the painter answered many questions, both orally and by post. We met in Wales, at his house in Kent, at the Cornsought Hotel in London. Menton was for the spring.

It would have been surprising if a painter of Sutherland's emotional intensity was an altogether easy man. He was not. His perfectionism, evident even in his casually elegant clothes, could make him seem finicky. His blend of scrupulousness and tenacity could charge minor problems with emotional electricity. When the sun of his charm was clouded, the shadows could feel cold.

He lost some old friends and patrons in the 1950s from the manner of his resignation as a trustee of the Tate Gallery, after the great Tate row, basically over the use of funds and bequests, had convulsed the art world. And his friendship with the redoubtable art critic and collector Douglas Cooper—subsequently terminated—proved to be a two-edged weapon, since Cooper built up Sutherland by knocking down other English artists.



Courtesy of Marlborough Fine Art

must be a terribly exacting calling, involving as it does the periodic public baring of the soul. Sutherland's reputation went through some violent fluctuations. First, after the Goldsmiths' College, there was relatively rapid success as an artist. Then the Depression killed the booming exchange market. Switching painfully to the freer world of colour and light, it was only when he discovered Pembrokeshire in 1934 that he began to find his own distinctive voice with those hauntingly lyrical Welsh landscapes.

Work as a war artist—one of the finest—widened his scope. Then in the later 1940s and 1950s he achieved perhaps excessive notoriety with his Northampton Crucifixion, his vast Coventry Cathedral tapestry, the Tate row, and his portraits of the midday. In the popular press he was hailed as the greatest English painter since Constable and Turner.

Then something of a reaction set in, particularly among the British critics, who thought they detected a coarsening of

his talent. Increasingly Sutherland felt that his reputation was advancing only on the Continent, and especially in Italy, where he had several enthusiastic patrons and friends. You must visit my Italian, he would say to me with a slightly defensive pride.

It was one of his closest Italian friends, the master printer Walter Rossi, of Rome, who in recent years helped Sutherland to blend together his genius as an etcher and water-colourist in a series of aquatints of bees and bees which beautifully bridged the gap between the opening and closing of his career as a painter.

One of the most admirable things about Sutherland as an artist was his courage. It took courage to seek to put some meaning back into religious painting at a time when the world was saturated with images of the horrors of war—particularly for a Roman Catholic convert working for Church of England patrons. It took courage to tackle portraiture when it was associated with the most debased aspects of the academic tradition.

It took courage to go on baffling the public with those mysterious standing forms, those "monuments and presences" with which in the 1950s and 1960s he sought to make tangible the mysteriously intangible, as he put it. Sutherland, an intensely ambitious painter and a tremendous worker, was always seeking some new "paraphrase of reality" with which to interpret the universe's hidden order.

Devotedly supported over 53 years by his wife, he gave much, too, to his friends. They ranged from public figures like Lord Goodman to the Welsh poet John Ormond, IAIN's Sandy Gail, and a number of young painters who were greatly assisted. They felt for him an affection not often, one suspects, enjoyed by the famous.

Of the ties and laws which constrain the artist's winged soul, Sutherland once wrote: "The kite flies only when attached to a string". That string is now cut, and the kite soars upward.

Roger Berthoud

## As Mao's banner slips, Lenin's flag rises

Any day now, or at the latest when the Chinese communists hold their twelfth party congress this year, Liu Shao-shi (Liu Shaoqi) will be posthumously rehabilitated. Current references to him in the press are all polite if not laudatory. His wife, Wang Guangmei (whose suffering in the cultural revolution was the subject of a dramatized documentary on British television), has been back in honoured circulation for some months.

It will be an odd comment that the man dubbed as "China's Khrushchev", to label him the arch revisionist, should be rehabilitated as the final gesture in the party's reversal of Mao's unjust verdicts on all his colleagues; the party's final verdict on Mao, indeed, which gives the Khrushchev parallel quite another face.

Much as one may sympathize with those who were wronged and whose names have now been cleared, there is, however, an aspect of the return to office or to the influence they may exert as elder statesmen, a much less attractive side.

One could sum up everything that has happened in the past three years in China, and especially all the actions of Mr Deng Xiaoping these past two years, as the rejection of Mao's at best valueless and mostly damaging escapades in revolutionary endeavour.

Everyone in the party knew what they disliked about Mao's rule. And they were all agreed that what mattered were China's urgent economic needs and the modernisation of its armed forces. This was precisely what the four modernisations were all about. In which case, one can imagine all the old stalwarts who astonishingly won the day in 1949 looking down at the new, younger generation that has been passing up its posters and circulating its critical newspapers with mixed contempt and anger.

What are they fussing about? Are the "four modernisations" not going to provide them with the jobs they need, with a China they can be proud of, with the attainment of a status in the world that their fathers

The skill with which China has been detached from revolutionary Maoism these last three years must be admired. When one looks up to the Maoist banner one sees it lower than it was before.

and grandfathers dreamed of 60 or 70 years ago?

Is the national effort that sprang resolutely into effect as far back as the May 4 movement in 1919 not at last going to be crowned with success? In which case why should there be any more tolerance given to these youths who attack the party, attack the system, attack Marxism and think that by overthrowing all that has been built up from the brave and tiny beginnings of the 1920s should not be best aside?

Enough is enough if this kind of democracy. Let them go to prison if they persist. It is not difficult to formulate such sentiments in the growth of these old men, muttering about what the country is coming to and how a stop should be put to these damaging and plainly unattractive crises. And if one recalls—as one must always, of a people so conscious of their past—that 2,000 years of totalitarianism exist to back these cries for marching to the top of the mountain, the persistence of Confucianism at all times deplored opposition as anti-social except when the faults of a ruler were manifestly irredeemable. No, one should not be surprised.

The pity is that these sentiments come wrapped in the most wretched jargon. The latest outburst, based on an important and no doubt definitive speech by Deng Xiaoping, puts the whole thing into Marxist, non-factual terms. Thus bourgeois democracy is false and rotten stuff; the task is to perfect the reality

of socialist democracy which is precisely for the great cause of the four modernisations and nothing else. Or: "in a capitalist society the bourgeoisie utilizes democracy as a political device to consolidate their own ruling position... there is the minimal equality advertised by capitalist democracy and, on the other hand, there are millions of real restrictions and checks to turn the proletariat into hired slaves".

Can anyone believe that this last quotation from Lenin could seem anything but laughable in western democracies of the 1980s?

Does it not occur to these old party men that their blissful dream of the 1920s and 30s is a clunk of past history? "We do not advocate democracy for democracy's sake but will use it as a means of struggle against the exploiting class and to winning the domination of the proletariat... and eventually to attain the goal of abolishing classes and emancipating all mankind."

What exploiting class in China today? What Chinese reality may be perceived in this woolly stuff? What truth does this convey to the generation whose experience was formed by such mass movements as the "great leap" and the cultural revolution and who asked themselves why they had suffered and not resist more effectively the damage that was done to China by these movements and not just by the last days of the current villains, the gang of four?

There is the supposedly convincing historical analogy that is also trundled into position. "Since the opium war, countless advanced people in China had sought the truth from the West for saving their country and people, and what tortuous ways they had gone through and what setbacks they suffered! They had tried all the available ways but to no avail. It was not until Marxism-Leninism was introduced in China that the Chinese revolution emerged in a new form."

Maybe, but is that why "bourgeois democracy" is a danger, "swindling, bluffing and fooling the people in the service of capitalist restoration"?

The skill with which China has been detached from revolutionary Maoism these last three years must be admired. Every six months when one looks up at the Maoist banner one sees that it is noticeably lower than it was before. But how sad to see the Leninist flag now being hoisted in its place.

Richard Harris

## MOSCOW DIARY

### Longing for the good old days

There is a joke in Russian, hard to translate keeping the pun, that goes: "Which came first, the chicken or the egg? First (i.e. in the past) there was everything." It sums up the present wave of nostalgia for the old days, while making a sharp comment on the chronic shortages and lack of choice of the present.

Old Russia has virtually disappeared in the high-rise housing estates, the palaces of culture and the monolithic office blocks of modern Soviet cities. But it lives on in people's minds, and its hold seems increasingly strong.

It has had a noticeable effect on Soviet literature and art, on fashion and design, on attitudes to religion, history and the preservation of ancient buildings and monuments. The past, with all its poverty and officially trumpeted injustices, seems to many a golden age—and a remembrance of things past is a burgeoning industry here.

Incredibly, even the darkest days of Stalin's rule are beginning to seem attractive, especially to the older generation.

There was a time, they admit, but there was still idealism and a belief that the new system was leading somewhere exciting. People long for the days when workers turned up on time and put in a full day's work, when genuine heroic feats led to projects being completed ahead of schedule.

People compare the law and order of those days to the crime, corruption and drunkenness of nowadays. With selective memory they speak of shops stocked with meat and caviar, of good furs that the average person could afford, of prices that were regularly lowered. Now, they grumble, everything is exported and prices keep going up.

But the real nostalgia is not for the 1930s or 1940s: it is for the way of life of pre-revolutionary Russia. Few would define it as such, or openly regret the effects of the revolution. But people have written to newspapers wondering why Russians no longer sit around the family samovar drinking tea. Art exhibitions of pre-revolutionary scenes and traditional Russian life have drawn crowds of many thousands. Novels about the end of the Empire have caused a sensation. Young

people have started digging out the old family albums and those from old aristocratic families no longer feel any embarrassment or need to conceal their origins. Icons and antiques have soared in value.

### Nostalgia

It is in the arts that the renewed interest in the past is most marked. Ilya Glazunov owes much of his popularity and notoriety to his persistent playing on nostalgic themes.

His famous art exhibition in Moscow's central exhibition hall two years ago enjoyed a success *de scandale* because it included pictures on religious themes, of old villages and figures from Russian history, and made specific and pointed comparisons with the drabness of modern Soviet society. Glazunov raised his curiosity value considerably by including the figure of Tsar Nicholas II in a painting that the Soviet authorities did not allow to be shown.

More recently a talented East German artist, Elizabeth Klyuch Evskoi, of Russian origin, drew large crowds at an exhibition of the Moscow that Dostoevsky knew—the street scenes and houses—which the authorities

propose to repeat at the time of the Olympics.

This exhibition was particularly welcomed as that quarter of Moscow has been torn down to make way for new buildings, much to the annoyance of many Muscovites. Indeed the wholesale destruction of the old streets and lowly nineteenth-century buildings in the city centre has been halted only just in time. Public pressure has recently forced the city planners to think instead about adapting the old buildings and twisting streets to contemporary needs.

Novelists today enjoying popularity make much of the Russian values which they see embodied in the Russian village. Valentin Rasputin, probably the leading representative of the "village" school of writers, who has won state awards and had his works staged and filmed, concentrates especially on the values of the peasant, which he sees as the bedrock of Russian thinking.

Pre-revolutionary history attracts enormous interests particularly as it is so confused by official rewriting and overlaid with ideological taboos. The closer the subject comes to 1917, the greater the risk of falling foul of the currently sanctioned interpretation of events, and

What on earth made us think of going back when Mrs Thatcher got in?



the greater therefore the attraction to many people. Russians are still extraordinarily reticent—almost embarrassed—in discussing what happened to the last Tsar. A novel about the Tsarina and the

monk Rasputin, published a few months ago, was the talk of the reading public, and was vigorously criticised for its false conclusions and sensationalism.

Nostalgia has long been inherent in the official identification with past Russian glories, but the bonds have widened. Large sums are now spent on restoration (90 million roubles for a 10 year programme to repair the Kremlin complex alone) and the re-creation of Tsarist magnificence. The main cultural monuments have never been in danger, but the second-hand buildings have in the past been left to crumble, and are now receiving expert attention.

One institution that has benefited significantly from the mood is the Russian Orthodox Church. Even official atheism pays tribute to the church's past role as the fount of Russian art and culture. The church has found young people attracted to its services as much out of curiosity about their grandparents' beliefs as out of religious conviction.

Religious themes are no longer subject to the blanket denunciations they suffered under Khrushchev. Handel's *Messiah*, Bach's *B-Minor Mass* and *The St Matthew* and *St John Passions* have all been

performed in the Soviet Union recently—unthinkable 15 years ago.

The nostalgia for Russian, not Soviet, and is closely allied to a growing Russian nationalism. As such it verges on the exclusive, shutting out Jews, Georgians, the peoples of central Asia.

This in turn has evoked similar nationalistic nostalgia by the other peoples of the Soviet Union, and there is fierce pride among the Uzbeks in their own Muslim heritage and the contexts and discoveries of Timurlaine and the astronomer Ulugh Be. This year the Soviet Union is making much of the 1,000th anniversary of the famous Arab scientist Ibn Sinna (Avicenna) who has been adopted by the Uzbeks as one of their forefathers. But it is an anniversary with a strictly local significance.

### Escapism

At the opposite end of the country, the Estonians, Lithuanians and Latvians counter heightened Russian consciousness with defensive glorification of their own languages, culture and history.

Interest in the past is fuelled by increasing apathy in the

face of modern political anniversaries and attempts to create new and colourless Soviet customs. It is an escape from slogans and promises of jam tomorrow.

A fierce conservatism has given renewed life to old ways of doing things. Tourism has revived trekkers' tales at winter festivals, released money for restoration and made the past a paying proposition to the bureaucracy. Increasing affluence and better education have given Russians more leisure to look backwards. And the Soviet leadership itself no longer feels so threatened by Russian history.

Nothing is so sought after from foreigners in this country than old books on Russia, photographs that show not only the oppressed workers but the lives of the bourgeoisie, biographies of the men whose reputations did not survive the rewritings of the past 50 years.

The Russians, still coming to terms with the idea of being a superpower, find greater certainty in their past, which they can freely exploit as an implicit comment on the present.

Michael Binyon





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## CRIMINAL LAW—NOT ENFORCED CIVIL LAW—NOT REFORMED

Mr Prior's working paper on secondary industrial action happens to come at a time when the reform of the civil law seems less important than the enforcement of the criminal law; in fact the two are linked. What happened last Thursday at Hatfield, as the Prime Minister rightly observed, plainly went beyond the bounds of peaceful picketing and entered the realm of direct intimidation. Intimidation and conspiracy to intimidate are criminal acts. In the case of Hatfield the intimidation achieved its objective and work at Hatfield has stopped. Similar intimidation has occurred in other places and is threatened at Sheerness.

The police reaction has been inadequate. In respect of lawful actions during industrial disputes the police quite rightly take the view that they should remain impartial. That is their job, and it is not in anybody's interest that they should lose their reputation for impartiality between management and trade unions. That does not, however, remove their responsibility to enforce the criminal law. A citizen going about his ordinary business is as much entitled to be protected from intimidation by mass pickets as he is to be protected from intimidation by any other crowd of people.

### Protecting the public

What is more, the organization of mass pickets, and particularly of flying pickets clearly intended to intimidate, is itself an unlawful act. In his role as a master of mass pickets, moving or threatening to move his members to impose his will on the public in different parts of the country, Mr Scargill is well outside the law. If he, or any other trade union leader, organizers or supporters action calculated to threaten other people, he lays himself open to prosecution. This is not a law about trade unions; it is a general protection of the public to which trade unions are as much subject as anyone else.

By the side of these actions, which have come so near to mass violence, and are so far removed from lawful, peaceful persuasion and reason, the reform of the civil law may seem less important. Yet it was the removal of all protection under civil law which helped to create among some trade unionists the false belief that any trade union action had a total immunity, civil, criminal or whatever. What is required is the creation of a civil law which is in reasonable balance, as well as the enforcement of the criminal law against the use of fear as a weapon. We do not want a law which would leave trade unions at the mercy of employers. That would be wrong and unjust. We do want to bring to an end the situation in which employers and the state itself are at the mercy of trade unions, because that is both unjust and immensely damaging to the national interest.

The question to be asked about the amendments Mr Prior is now

putting forward for discussion is whether they go far enough to redress the balance. Despite the complaints of the trade unions there is really no question at all that they go too far. Compared with the immense changes made in favour of trade unions by Mr Michael Foot they represent only a very small redressing of the balance.

Much of what Mr Prior proposes goes no further than setting right matters which the House of Lords has very recently set wrong. Indeed his first two qualifications for immunity both correct those parts of House of Lords' judgments which could properly be described as having made new law and had new law at that. He will restore the law to an objective test rather than a subjective test of whether a strike is in furtherance of a trade dispute. His proposal is that it should be required to be "reasonably capable of furthering the dispute". The House of Lords were under no obligation to adopt the purely subjective test and Lord Wilberforce rightly protested at their doing so. There Lord Diplock and the majority were making new law as freely as Lord Denning has ever done, with this difference that they made their new law against equity and against liberty.

Mr Prior is also making the immunity dependent on the action being taken predominantly in pursuit of the trade dispute concerned and not principally for some "extraneous motive". This again merely restores the position, which had previously been held to be the case, that a political strike does not enjoy immunity; the immunities were granted for the purpose of trade disputes and not for the purpose of political disputes. The House of Lords had left this part of the law unclear, after dismissing Lord Denning's doctrine of the two disputes in the steel case—one a trade dispute, the other political.

### The question of immunity

One half of Mr Prior's proposals deal only with matters which arose for the first time in the House of Lords. These are not even matters on which the House of Lords overruled a novel judgment of Lord Denning, as was the case in the doctrine of remoteness. The House of Lords was setting aside the general trend of past judicial interpretation, including their own. It is desirable that the House of Lords should be put right but it makes no great difference to the balance of trade union power. So far as these amendments are concerned Mr Prior's proposals leave us no better and no worse off than we appeared to be when the government came to office.

The other major proposal is to limit the immunity of inducing breaches in commercial contracts to the main dispute or contracts involving what are called first suppliers or customers. This limitation of immunity will apply only to breaches of commercial contracts. Inducements to break contracts of employment will

continue to enjoy their full immunity, provided only that they are in furtherance of a trade dispute. They can go as wide or as far as the union has reason to consider advantageous.

In terms of the balance of power this again must be regarded as a relatively minor matter. In the first place the limitation only applies if the dispute is taken beyond the point of first suppliers or customers. Mr Prior is therefore talking about primary and secondary disputes being covered by immunity, and only tertiary disputes having their immunity reduced. Secondly, the reduction in immunity only affects commercial breaches. Until 1972 the immunities under the Trade Disputes Act of 1906 were confined to contracts of employment and it was only in 1976 that the scope of the immunity was extended to include breaches of all contracts.

### Creating a fair balance

We have therefore a proposal by Mr Prior to leave the trade unions with wider immunities than they had in the period of 1906-1972 in respect of commercial contracts, and with immunities as wide as they ever had (until the most recent House of Lords judgments appeared to extend them) in respect of employment contracts. These provisions would have made no difference to the situation in the steel industry, though the picketing provisions already proposed in Mr Prior's bill might have been helpful. It is not surprising that the independent steel companies describe them as "utterly useless".

The failure is broad and deep. Since the Donovan Commission was set up by Mr Harold Wilson in 1965 "to consider relations between management and employees and the role of trade unions and employees' associations in promoting the interests of other members and in accelerating the social and economic advance of the nation, with particular reference to the law affecting the activities of these bodies", it has been notorious that Britain needed an equitable trade union law; that would be one that would secure a fair balance in the bargaining between employer and trade unions, and would provide an orderly and democratic structure for the protection of members of trade unions.

The Conservative Party failed in opposition after 1974 to devise any coherent system of reform. Mr Prior's original proposals for legislation did not constitute such a system of reform and his bill will hardly be brought any nearer to it by the latest amendments. No doubt his proposals should be as far as they go because they undo some serious and gratuitous damage that was done in the House of Lords, but that was very recent damage and the amendments fail to address themselves to the central issue of the balance of power. Bad laws have given great power to bad trade union practices; minor changes will not help to protect Britain from them.

become the balancing party. Even nine short months out of power can teach a politician useful lessons. But the key issue, the issue which destiny seems to have reserved for Mr Trudeau to resolve, is the unity of Canada, the coming confrontation with the secessionist forces in Quebec. At the end of the campaign, the old Mr Trudeau spoke out for a strong federal government and for one Canada as a blend of two cultures.

Mr Levesque, perhaps ominously, welcomed the renewal of his struggle with federalist Mr Trudeau. He has his worries. The referendum in which he will ask Quebec voters to agree to negotiations for the so-called sovereignty-association is a few months off. But the resurgence of the provincial Liberal Party under Mr Claude Ryan has made a difference. Mr Ryan's own scheme for a new relationship between Quebec and Canada, which carefully retains federal unity, is evidently liked by Quebecers, who are enjoying a new sense of self-confidence as both French and Canadians. This is the upshot of many factors. But it is one on which Mr Trudeau and Mr Ryan could build constructively—if they worked well together and with the other provinces, especially the west. It is the nub of the problem: for Mr Trudeau's will be the decisive role.

worthy of full consideration; to hang it on tired old ideas about a nonexistent "vast edifice of public bureaucracy" does little to serve all.

Yours faithfully,  
AMANDA ARROWSMITH,  
16 Niagara Road,  
Henley-on-Thames,  
Oxfordshire.  
February 13.

### Setting an example of violence

From the Chief Constable of Manchester

Sir, Is it any wonder there is violence in the streets and on picket lines? Is it any wonder young people resort to gratuitous, sadistic violence when the police are not deliberately in the name of sport?

What happened on more than one occasion in a very recent Rugby International (report, February 18) was positively disgraceful. Judged by the television recording of that match some players must now be surprised they are not facing charges of criminal assault.

It is high time the powers in the game clamped down and sorted out the trouble makers. Responsibility for this cannot be avoided by calling Rugby "a man's game". That was a view once taken of war.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES ANDERTON,  
Chief Constable,  
Chief Constable's Office,  
PO Box 22 (S. West PDO),  
Chester House,  
Boyer Street,  
Manchester.  
February 18.

### Interpretation problems

From Mr Geoffrey Sampson

Sir, The remark of the French Minister for Agriculture, that France is "in favour of a common agricultural policy, not of a free trade area" (reported in *The Times* of February 15), makes it clearer than ever before that British problems with the EEC represent differences of opinion about the fundamental purpose of the Community.

The Treaty of Rome created the EEC precisely to be a free trade area. Articles 38-46 of the Treaty permitted agricultural price-support strictly as a transitional device to cushion the social problems of rationalizing inefficient French and German agriculture. More than 20 years later the "transitional" period was over and the sign of ending, and France wants to extend the CAP further.

Perhaps the French never took the ideals of the Treaty very seriously, and since they were founder members and we are new boys, perhaps they changed their version of the EEC will prevail. But then it is surely absurd for us to continue in membership of an institution which believes in free trade for industry, where we are weak, but in mercantilism for one of the few areas where we are strong.

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY SAMPSON,  
Richmond House,  
Ingleton,  
Yorkshire.  
February 17.

### A word for the Vikings

From Professor W. S. Allen, FBA

Sir, On the question of the Viking name, both Mr Frenchman and your correspondents of February 16 have some right on their side. As well as the Old Norse *viking* "viking" there is also the word *viking* "raid" or "expedition" (perhaps connected with the Latin *vincere* "conquer"); and the former is more likely to have been originally derived from the latter than vice versa.

However, popular etymology may well from early times have suggested a connection with *vika* "bay", and in *Reykjavik* ("bay of fumes") a speaker today may address his audience as "*Reykjavíkingar* og *Reykjavíkingar*" ("Reykjavíkingar and female"), with no implication of a cod-war or similar activities.

Yours faithfully,  
W. S. ALLEN,  
Trinity College,  
Cambridge.  
February 16.

From Dr Peter Hunter Blair

Sir, Let us by all means recognize the great achievements of these Viking traders who were not raiders, but should it not also be said that not one of those who brought their wares to Lindisfarne, Jarrow, Wearmouth, Whitby, Iona and many another centre of monastic learning would have been able to read any of the books in the monastic libraries?

York, before the Viking attack, possessed one of the greatest libraries in western Europe, such that an eminent French scholar might write to the York library seeking the loan of books which were not to be found in his own country.

We cannot identify a single book from the York library. The consequences of this Viking trading were disastrous for the intellectual life of much of England and it is surely no accident that when the new learning came it sprang from not in York but from those parts of England which had been least affected by the Vikings, whether as raiders or traders.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER HUNTER BLAIR,  
Emmanuel College,  
Cambridge.  
February 15.

### Support for the family

From Mr Tom Litterick

Sir, Miss M. T. Evans is mistaken when she refers to the large net increase in Exchequer support for the family... as a result of the introduction of child benefit (February 13).

In fact the value of child benefit was only marginally greater than the combined values of the Child Tax Allowances and Family Allowances which were phased out as child benefit was introduced, for families with more than one child. This value has since been significantly eroded and is now lower than it was in 1974. The only remaining net beneficiary is certainly a very good one, even if the location proposed by Mr Brophy is perhaps verging on the ridiculous.

With today's united Europe the Low Countries would provide a much better location than Stansfeld. Amsterdam would be a particularly good location, since it already claims the position of London's

### Plans for the welfare of the world

From Dame Judith Hart, MP for Larnak (Labour)

Sir, May I congratulate you on your sense of priorities in giving such full coverage and such perceptive leader comment to the Report of the Brandt Commission (February 13)?

Its theme of the mutuality of interest between North and South is not new as you know. But it is one which has been steadily gathering support during the last five years. Its endorsement and the proposals for action by the Commission demonstrate that responsible leaders in the North pause for a reflection which must transcend party politics.

I had at one point thought that the timing of the Commission's report would be unfortunate, coinciding as it does with the economic and political mood of introspection which flows from world depression, international crisis, and post and pre-election problems in the United States, Germany and Britain. But I believe now that it is perfectly timed, as a clear challenge to all governments in the North to think again about the global problems facing us, and to define with greater intelligence and wisdom their own enlightened self interest in their relationships with the South.

What worries me, however, is the process within Whitehall which will be involved in what will no doubt be called "The Response to the Brandt Report". A Foreign and Commonwealth Office view (separate Overseas Development input); a Treasury view; a Trade view; an interdepartmental official committee; perhaps a central Policy Review Secretariat; a simple example of the Commission's proposals will be a need for detailed work. But we need above all a positive and early response to the general theme of the report.

It will demand political judgement and initiative. I hope that when we have the debate in the House of Commons for which we have called, there will be that positive response. Anything other would be an abdication of responsibility for British participation in finding global solutions to global crisis in which our own economy and our society is at risk.

Yours faithfully,  
JUDITH HART,  
House of Commons.  
February 18.

From Mr Ewart Parkinson

Sir, The Brandt Report tells the peoples of the world once more of the horrifying injustices that exist. That a search for a greater transfer of resources from North to South,

### Deaths in police custody

From Mr Michael Meacher, MP for Oldham, West (Labour)

Sir, Professor Smythe (February 14) makes the obvious point that in comparing deaths in police custody with numbers of complaints against the police alleging assault, one needs to standardise the data according to the number of arrests.

Of course, and that is why I had already sought this information in a written Parliamentary Question to the Home Office on January 31. The point I was making is that whilst there are naturally more complaints and more deaths in custody in urban areas, there are disproportionately more of both, to a significant degree, when the figures are adjusted according to a standardised number of arrests for each police area.

Thus whilst there were over the decade 2.7 deaths in custody nationally (excluding the Metropolitan area) per 10,000 arrests in 1978, in Merseyside it was 4.5 in West Yorkshire 5.2, in North Wales 6.8, in the Metropolitan area 8.3, and the City of London 10.5.

Similarly, whilst there were 34 complaints nationally in 1978 per 10,000 arrests that year, there were 38 in Merseyside, 42 in the Metropolitan area, 51 in West Yorkshire, 59 in North Wales, and 72 in the City of London.

As for Professor Smythe's point that these are unsubstantiated complaints, I desire to point out that the police should not be blind to the fact that the DPP's prosecution rate against the police of 1 per cent and the Police Complaints Board's failure to recommend disciplinary action in any of the 2,230 complaints of assault referred to them in 1978 may say a great deal more about the present hopelessly futile complaints system than about the substance of the complaints themselves.

Dr Skidmore (February 15) challenges my, and the Police Federation's, support for detoxification centres on the grounds that

### Religious light

From Dr J. Croney

Sir, The Vicar of St Andrew's, Darnley, (Law Report, published February 12) may be nearer to God than his consistory Chancellor in sensing the Holy Spirit's emanence through electric candles. Long before man evolved, and made his first crude candles, the Holy Spirit, which is the only God to some of us, manifested its awesome presence in the flicker of electric lights of lightning and the Aurora.

I have stood amazed at the antics of consistory courts and Chancellors since some 25 years ago, when an enterprising vicar installed an electronic ball of bells in his silenced steeple without obtaining a faculty, and was obliged to recant and remove them. However, as Gallies remarked, *Eppur si muove* (though not of the Church on that occasion) and 25 years on,

### London's third airport

From Mr Charles Harman

Sir, The idea raised by Mr Michael Brophy (February 13) that London's third airport should become the first Euro-airport is certainly a very good one, even if the location proposed by Mr Brophy is perhaps verging on the ridiculous.

With today's united Europe the Low Countries would provide a much better location than Stansfeld. Amsterdam would be a particularly good location, since it already claims the position of London's

for a new fight to break the bonds of mass misery is an act of enlightened self-interest. That economic growth in the North is both a political and just necessity.

I hope that political leaders will not underestimate the altruism of their peoples, especially the young. Fed on a diet of selfish consumer materialism there is a growing conviction that there is more to life than this.

We need a practical call to action to help the poorest of the poor to help themselves, not because we want to avoid revolutions, even if we do; not because we fear the threat of communism, even if we do; not because we think it will help the transnational corporations, even if it does; but simply because it is right.

I also hope that the significance of cities in the Third World is recognized. Whatever is done for rural development—and however much is done will still be insufficient—the next two decades will witness a growth of urban populations on a scale which the world has never before seen.

The motives are many—cities are regarded as places of social and job opportunities. In Bangladesh urban income is twice that in the countryside. In India an urban child has seven times the chance of a university education. In Ethiopia a townswoman has a 30 times better prospect of medical attention as a villager. By AD 2000 the cities of the developing countries may have three times the total urban population of the developed world in 1960.

The search for urban jobs will become ever more insistent as job opportunities on the land cease to grow. Those jobs will not be deriving from Western-type technologies nor from urban developments based on Western models. Nevertheless the experience of the West in managing urban change is, I believe, a skill that can usefully be transferred.

Finally, may I make the simple but fundamental plea that if we have a care for the earth's resources, we need to recognize the relevance of differential growth rates for the developed and undeveloped worlds. To cite a simple example, a 5 per cent growth of energy consumption in the United States implies an increase of 1,000,000 kgm of coal equivalent. In Bangladesh, with slightly less than half the population—it means a growth of 1 x 10<sup>10</sup> kgm of coal equivalent.

Yours faithfully,  
EWARD PARKINSON,  
Chairman,  
International Affairs Board,  
The Royal Town Planning Institute,  
26 Portland Place, W1.  
February 18.

some drunken persons still require custodial care. Agreed, but there is no argument for saying that all drunken persons should be removed to police stations when clearly most need medical or social care. It is rather an argument for saying that detoxification centres should have some facilities for custodial care where necessary, and that I agree with.

Yours sincerely,  
MICHAEL MEACHER,  
House of Commons.

From Dr R. A. A. Lawrence

Sir, I hold no brief for or against the police on the question of deaths of persons in police custody. My experience as a police surgeon of a large police division can be only factual.

Mr James Jardine is quoted as saying in *The Times* of February 12 that all "police officers were not medically trained and... nobody expected that the police would be able to distinguish between drunkenness and some other illness".

In my experience for the past 28 years the officers in my division have always sought my professional advice in any case of either injury or suspected illness of persons in custody. On some occasions these have been cases of alleged injury caused by police officers. In addition, persons arrested in relation to drinking and driving or being drunk and incapable are examined by me.

Like Mr Jardine I would regard it as "utterly impossible" for there to be a cover-up in this country for a policeman to kill someone while in custody in my division.

Yours sincerely,  
R. A. A. LAWRENCE,  
Police Surgeon to Derbyshire Constabulary,  
27 Swarbrick Road,  
Leabrooks,  
Derby.  
February 13.

We actually have an electronic organ in Chichester Cathedral.

And further help is at hand. I see from your edition of February 11 that the Bishop of Chichester, with 19 others, is to preside over a commission to regulate some of these arcane sophistries.

Sadly among its members' professions, which you name, I do not see either a scientist or an engineer—only lawyers, architects and liturgists. Nonetheless we must wish the commission well: it will have its work cut out to correct some entrenched platitudes.

Meanwhile the proceedings of these consistory courts are always good for a laugh in an increasingly sombre world.

Yours, etc.  
J. CRONEY,  
134 Cedar Drive,  
Chichester,  
Sussex.  
February 14.

Third Airport. As with the North Sea site suggested by Mr Brophy aircraft would have access soundlessly across the North Sea and communications to London could be via the Thames, using hovercraft or hydrofoils.

In an era of European unity and fraternity such problems as finance, ownership and redistribution of profits would surely create little problem.

Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES HARMAN,  
17 Pelham Crescent, SW7.  
February 14.

### Sour notes for Mr Levin

From Sir Denis Forman

Sir, Bernard Levin's inability (February 13) to understand the plainest programme note (except the sort from *Rosa Newmark*) is a pity, of course, but put down to any inability to cope with the English language. It derives rather from his profound ignorance of musical form. Many of my friends whose pleasure in music is largely emotional share Mr Levin's deficiency, but they don't talk about it so much.

Mr Orga's note of the Schoenberg Piano Concerto is as clear as crystal to anyone who understands the theories of the Second Viennese School. He says that in early life Schoenberg applied his system of serialism with rigidity. As he matured, however, he introduced elements of the old diatonic music into his work.

This was not a case of backsliding, it was in preparation for a new phase in which he treated serialism in a less absolute way. Thus (the word is used correctly) in the piano concerto we hear elements of the old musical system combined with the new.

But this does not detract from the overall impression that the piece is written in terms of serialism. Anything wrong with that? Of course Mr Orga uses jargon but the study of music has its special vocabulary which must be learned.

I should add that I, too, have never heard of Mr Orga, nor am I any great fan of Schoenberg. My sole concern is for Mr Levin himself, and if he will take me with him on his next visit to the Festival Hall, and if he will give me a few minutes before the concert begins, it will be a great pleasure to explain the simpler references to musical form included in programme notes. I am confident that this will add to his enjoyment and will pay for his ticket to prove it.

Yours faithfully,  
DENIS FORMAN,  
Chairman,  
Novello and Company Limited,  
1-3 Upper James Street, W1.  
February 14.

From Mr Hans Keller

Sir, Having devoted much of a lifetime to the problem of writing about music, I find it a little surprising to Bernard Levin's thoughts on it.

In the first place, not everything we don't understand is "drivel" or "meaningless", and should perhaps only be so called if we can, at the same time, demonstrate its vagueness. I hold no brief for Mr Orga's style or jargon, but should happily challenge Bernard Levin to what, for me, could prove a highly profitable bet: I am prepared precisely to explain what Mr Orga means—to Mr Levin's own satisfaction.

Meanwhile, his jokes about Mr Orga's name (his real name, and hence hardly a justifiable object of public amusement) seem to me on the same youthful level as his jokes about musicology—or, for that matter, music—he doesn't understand.

In the second place, Bernard Levin's juxtaposition of words he dislikes and those he likes shows, simply, that he likes description and loathes analysis. Description, however, only tells us what we can hear, anyway; for all but the deaf it is, at its truest, tautological. Analysis, on the other hand, leads us to the music behind the music—which, in the composer's mind and ear, was the music before the music.

Yours sincerely,  
HANS KELLER,  
3 Froggyn Gardens, NW3.  
February 15.

From the Reverend Eric Thacker

Sir, On the strength of his just reprobation of Abbs Orga's ghastly programme notes (February 13), I propose that Bernard Levin be designated as *DRIVEL BANNER* of the month for all but the deaf it is, at its truest, tautological. Analysis, on the other hand, leads us to the music behind the music—which, in the composer's mind and ear, was the music before the music.

Yours sincerely,  
ERIC THACKER,  
St Paul's Vicarage,  
58 Whitmoor Crescent,  
Leeds 14.  
February 13.

### Finance for Mercia

From Mr F. T. Bunting

Sir, As a member of one of the unsuccessful consortia which applied for the licence for the commercial radio station for Coventry, I was very interested to read Kenneth Gosling's article in your issue of February 7.

May I take the opportunity to correct a misleading impression in the article that the local companies—a brewery, a garage, Co-operative stores, newspapers—were all part of the original application of Midland Community Radio. This was not so. It was not until August, 1979, that these local companies, most of whom were members of the unsuccessful consortium in which we participated, became part of Midland Community Radio by underwriting their public offer of shares. The widespread financial backing which Midland Community Radio now enjoys was not part of their original application.

Yours faithfully,  
F. T. BUNTING,  
Managing Director,  
Coventry Evening Telegraph,  
Corporation Street,  
Coventry.

### Dab hand

From Mr George Chowdhary-Best

Sir, I write this letter wearing a suit that was made for my late father in April 1940. So far as I am aware it has never been taken to the cleaners: if it had been it might well have fallen apart long ago. Nor does it pong, whiff, or smell unpalatable; and if Prudence Glynn (February 12) doubts this, she is welcome to come and investigate as closely as she likes.

It is true that a certain amount of extraneous matter has had to be dabbed off over the years, but it also remains unaltered, unwashed and ungrimey. I may add that seven of its eight cuff-buttons are still in place.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE CHOWDHARY-BEST,  
174 Clay Hill Road,  
Basilston,  
Essex.

### Value for our rates

From Miss Amanda Arrowsmith

Sir, I have been a local government officer for eight years, two rounds of public expenditure cuts and three local authorities.

The commitment of almost every one of my colleagues, past and present, to serving the public if not the politicians does not merit the fashionable abuse given to us

by Anthony Steen (February 13). Local government officers are in general less well paid than their private sector counterparts, less well accommodated, and denied so far as I am aware of the mysterious privileges at which Mr Steen hints.

Perhaps naively, I do my job because I believe it makes a contribution to the good of society.

Mr Steen's suggestion of private sector involvement in our task is















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## IN BRIEF

## Net sales of unit trusts down in January

Unit trust sales at £35.5m in January were the highest for eight months, but repurchases were also at an eight-month high of £34.4m leaving net sales of only £1.1m compared with £4.2m the previous month.

The initial launches of three new funds last month more than accounted for the net increase, while net sales of unit trusts linked life assurance averaged £7m a month in the last quarter of 1979.

The aggregate value of unit trust-linked contracts now amounts to £1,019.9m, about one-quarter of the industry's total funds under management of £4,275.8m at the end of January.

### Call for Opec summit

The United Arab Emirates has proposed that the organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries hold an extraordinary summit next month to study unifying its oil prices. Mr Manek Said al-Oteibi, the UAE oil minister, announced this in a broadcast from Abu Dhabi.

### Eurodollar trouble

Iran's decision to pull out of the Eurodollar project for the production of enriched uranium has left France, the principal shareholder, in great difficulty in raising the money to complete the scheme. Iran had a 10 per cent share in the £22,000m franc (about £2,278m) scheme.

### City regulation plea

Mr Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, says that regulation in the City has gone far enough and is in danger of stifling initiative. But while the need is for an industrial and commercial revival, the political mood still seems to favour more regulation.

### Oil usage warning

An official French report by a forecasting group says European Community energy consumption in the next 10 years will double unless major savings are achieved, and that Europe's position will remain fragile if the United States continues to import huge quantities of oil.

### £21m new orders

More than £21m of new orders have now been confirmed for nine gas turbines and associated power generation plant from John Brown Engineering in the last three months. They include three turbines for the BP North Sea Magnus Field, five for the ALBA smelter in Bahrain and one for Conoco's refinery in Humberside.

### Petrol prices up

British Petroleum, Mobil and Texaco following Shell and Esso on Monday, have increased their petrol prices. At the pumps today all grades of Mobil petrol will rise by about 3p. BP's prices will be between 3p and 3 1/2p higher and Texaco garages will charge an average 3 1/2p more.

### GKN's £50m tender

Guest Keen and Nettlefolds is involved in advanced negotiations with the East German Government to build a forging plant for truck components. Industry sources said the GKN tender could approach £50m.

## Pressures mounting for Budget cut in public borrowing level

By David Blake  
Economics Editor

A growing concern about the impact that high interest rates are having on the economy is putting increasing pressure on Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to cut back public borrowing in his Budget on March 26.

He may try to get the total of borrowing down to around £9,000m or even below, thus ensuring that the Government's deficit does not rise above the level of the current year.

If he decides to do that, the Budget will have to be tough, beginning a period of two to three years of falling real take home pay. There is a growing question mark over whether the Chancellor will be able to give all the increases in personal allowances implied by the Rooker-Wise amendment, which increases personal allowances automatically in line with inflation. The cost of implementing this in full could be £2,000m.

There is an increasing feeling that the country has not fully grasped the gravity of the economic situation it faces, with prospects of precipitate decline and decay. It now seems probable that the recession which is just beginning will last until near the end of next year at least, with output falling in both 1980 and 1981. The recovery in 1982 may be relatively feeble at first.

This picture of falling output is made worse, as far as living standards are concerned, by what is seen as the need to restore the health of the corporate sector through restoring profits. Persuading people to accept cuts in their take home pay to do this is likely to be one of the Government's most difficult tasks in the years ahead.

## GDP rise slight in last quarter

By Our Economics Staff

British output grew very slightly in the last quarter of 1979. The annual figures published yesterday. In the whole of 1979 the economy stagnated, with little change in the size of the gross domestic product (GDP).

Yesterday's figures which give preliminary government estimates of output in the final three months of last year, show a rise, measured by output, of 0.4 per cent between the third and fourth quarters of 1979.

Much of this rise was due to a recovery in output after the end of the engineering strike in October. The manufacturing sector was more buoyant, since industry's output fell slightly between the third and fourth quarters, according to figures published last week.

The Government's figures for economic growth and industrial production show no sign of the expected recession. However, the economy may well be contracting now, after stagnating last year.

During 1978 and 1979 the economy grew overall by about 1.75 per cent. However, much of this was due to North Sea oil. Excluding oil and gas production and associated activities, GDP grew by only just over 0.5 per cent during the year.

Treasury forecasts are belatedly predicting a drop in GDP of 2.53 per cent this year. The output measure of GDP is thought to be the most reliable indicator of short-term movements in the economy. Recently it has diverged considerably from one of the other measures of economic output, expenditure. The latter grew much more slowly, and to some extent has depressed the Treasury's average annual growth rate.

The economy's progress was uneven last year, influenced heavily by strikes and the budget. There was a sharp rise in GDP in the second quarter of the year as industry recovered from strikes and bad weather at the beginning of 1979, and as consumers spent heavily in anticipation of tax increases in the budget.

A feeling that the current level of interest rates are almost intolerably high unites both Treasury ministers and Cabinet colleagues who are cautiously described as dovish or wet. Increasing signs that there is growing international pressure for a further increase in interest rates has helped convince the Government that there is little prospect of a spontaneous fall in interest rates.

Sir Geoffrey said on BBC Radio's "Today" programme yesterday that while he hoped interest rates would soon fall, this could not happen until Government borrowing was reduced. The Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR) is expected to be around £9,000m or perhaps slightly less in the year to April.

In recent months the Government has been increasingly convinced of the closeness of the link between the size of Government borrowing and pressures to raise interest rates. This is because the Government may be forced to push up interest rates if its borrowing rises so that it can sell enough gilt-edged stock to keep the money supply under control.

Refusing to increase personal allowances to keep pace with inflation could mean that more people would have to pay tax and that taxpayers' bills would increase as the earnings went up.

It would, however, probably be less politically embarrassing than increasing the standard rate of tax on the earnings of the present level of 30p in the pound. The Government is hoping to reduce this figure to 25p in the pound in the years to come.

One possible short-term expedient might be to change the incidence of the lower rate of tax so that it affected fewer people or was abolished altogether.

Chances of reform, page 21

## Receiver called in at Dunbee toy group

By Alison Mitchell

Dunbee-Comber-Marx, Britain's largest independent toy maker, which manufactures Hornby trains, Sindy dolls, Scalectrix and Pedigree toys, has been put into the hands of a receiver.

Although the group is trading profitably in the United Kingdom, it has been crippled by losses in America and Europe and cannot meet its liabilities under guarantees of the overseas companies' debts.

As well as appointing a receiver for the parent company, Midland Bank has appointed a receiver to all British subsidiaries except those in the Marlet Group of DIY and industrial businesses which include Decco, Dunbee and Stephen Wilson group. A flotation, through an offer for sale, is planned and this could raise some £5m for the stricken group.

Mr Richard Becham, founder and joint managing director of the group, said yesterday that the problem in the United States had a "domino effect" on the overseas bankers. Because of the continuing trading losses in America, the United States creditors have applied to the court for a moratorium to protect their interests.

This appears to have been the final blow. Mr Becham said: "If only we had given more time everything would be all right. We have plenty of reserves." Although the 1979 figures have not yet been released, he admitted that

turnover amounted to more than £150m and profits in the United Kingdom ran into several million pounds.

However, two deals to sell the American Aurora and Louis Marx toys, which were valued at £15.25 per cent. Short-term treasury bill yields rose to record levels and by mid-session on the New York Stock Exchange the Dow Jones industrial average was down by 10.66 to 874.32 points.

Mr Volcker told the banking committee of the House of Representatives that the central bank is now willing to run the risk of a recession in order to secure lower money supply growth.

The Fed today released new money supply growth targets for 1980, which because of changes in the technical definitions of money make it impossible to make precise comparisons with the Fed's previous target ranges.

A Fed spokesman pointed out that the full degree of tightening becomes apparent when one compares the mid-point of the new ranges, which amounts to the goals for money growth this year, with the actual rate of growth seen in 1979. The very narrow new measure of the money supply, M1A, is set to grow by between 3.5 and 6 per cent and its 4.75 per cent mid-point compares with actual growth last year of 8 per cent.

The pound was one of the hardest hit currencies, losing 2.45 cents on the day against the dollar. It fell by 0.6 points on the trade-weighted index to finish at 72 1/2 per cent of its 1971 value. The lowest it has been since early this month.

Sterling has been riding high for most of this year. North Sea oil and high British interest rates have attracted a substan-

## Newman directors face £450,000 damages bill for attempt to mislead shareholders

By Alison Mitchell

Two directors of Newman Industries will have to pay damages of at least £450,000 as a result of an attempt to "trick and mislead" shareholders into accepting a deal which was not in the financial interests of the company.

At the end of one of the longest and most costly post-judgment actions in the High Court, Mr Justice Vinelott ruled yesterday that the Prudential Assurance Company—a minority holder in Newman—and other shareholders had suffered damage as a result of the conspiracy.

The judge held that the Prudential had established that a takeover by Newman of assets of Thomas Poole Gladstone China had not been in the interests of, or for the benefit of, Newman.

The deal was set up by Mr Alan Bartlett, the Newman chairman, and Mr John Laughton, the vice chairman, who also headed the board of Thomas Poole.

However, the judge doubted if Mr Bartlett ever fully understood the difficulties and dangers inherent in the conflicts which were bound to arise between the interests of associated companies.

"When disaster loomed Mr Bartlett saw the destruction of what he genuinely believed to be a potentially valuable scheme. I think he may have

believed that it would be for the ultimate benefit of Newman that it should be paired with a network of associated companies.

But to say that Mr Bartlett was motivated at least in part by his desire to keep the package together, and that he believed benefits would ultimately flow from it, is not to excuse his conduct," he said.

Thomas Poole Gladstone, which had a 25.6 per cent holding in Newman, was itself 35 per cent owned by Strongpoint, a company wholly-owned by Mr Bartlett and Mr Laughton. In June 1978 a deal was constructed — signed by Mr Laughton without approval from Newman shareholders — to buy a package of Thomas Poole assets. These assets included the Newman shares and a £100,000 debt owed by Strongpoint.

Later that month Mr Bartlett sent a circular to Newman shareholders which, the judge said, had been intended to induce the approval of the scheme, designed to benefit Thomas Poole at the expense of Newman.

The judge, who described the circular as "tricky and misleading" said that a shareholder reading it would be quite unable to form any assessment of the merits of the transaction.

Deloitte & Co, the accountants, who were asked by New-

man to value the Thomas Poole package, were misled by dishonest statements or concealments of material facts by Mr Bartlett and Mr Laughton and increased their valuation from £235,000 to £325,000 after a telephone conversation with Mr Laughton. This figure exceeded the market value of the assets by at least £450,000, the judge said.

"He (Mr Bartlett) knew that if the true facts as to the financial position of TPG and the market value of its assets became known to the Newman board and shareholders there would be no prospect that they could be persuaded to accept them at a price sufficient to enable him to salvage TPG and avoid embarrassing disclosures of the use made of TPG's and Newman's money."

"Having embarked upon the scheme it was carried through with the cooperation of Mr Laughton by means which involved the deliberate deception of the board and shareholders of Newman", the judge told the court.

At the end of his 250-page judgment, which took one-and-a-half days to deliver, Mr Vinelott made no immediate orders. He directed that the parties should return to court at a later date to formulate the basis for an inquiry into the damage suffered by Newman and to deal with the question of costs which



Mr Alan Bartlett: responsible for setting up the deal.

are estimated at about £750,000. The rumour of Thomas Poole's stake in Newman was sold to Lonrho was finally taken over by Maddock from which Newman, through Grindley of Stoke (Ceramics), a subsidiary, has just agreed to buy the United States ceramics interest for about £1.8m in cash and shares.

Financial Editor, page 21

## Prime rates jump as Fed chief signals tighter monetary policy

From Frank Vogl

US Economics Correspondent

Washington, Feb 19.—American monetary policy is to be tightened, Mr Paul Volcker, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board today declared that there should be no doubt that the central bank was determined to curb money supply growth in 1980 and in the years ahead. He added: "he must come to grips with the problem of inflation."

News of the tightening of monetary policies produced sharp reactions in financial markets and at banks. Chase Manhattan Bank, Chemical Bank and the Bank of America, were among prominent institutions to raise their prime lending rates to 15.75 per cent from 15.25 per cent.

Short-term treasury bill yields rose to record levels and by mid-session on the New York Stock Exchange the Dow Jones industrial average was down by 10.66 to 874.32 points.

Mr Volcker told the banking committee of the House of Representatives that the central bank is now willing to run the

risk of a recession in order to secure lower money supply growth.

The slightly broader monetary aggregate, M1B, is set to grow by 4 to 6.25 per cent and its mid-point of 5.25 per cent compares with 8 per cent seen last year. Mr Volcker said that the 8 per cent figure is somewhat inaccurate, because of special one-time factors and a better adjusted number is 7 per cent.

M2 and M3 are set to rise under the Fed's new targets by 6 to 9 per cent and by 6.5 to 9.5 per cent respectively. The new mid-point for M2 is, therefore, 7.5 per cent and this compares with 8.8 per cent in 1979 and for M3 the new mid-point of 8 per cent compares with 9.5 per cent growth in 1979.

Mr Volcker said time and again that the economic outlook now is particularly uncertain and that, while he does believe there will be a mild recession, the economy would once again prove to be stronger than is widely anticipated.

The bank's forecasts suggest real gross national product in 1980 will be between plus 0.5 and minus 2.5 per cent, and for M3 the new mid-point range of between 8.75 and 12 per cent and with unemployment rising to between 6.75 and 8 per cent.

## Dollar bounds after Volcker pledge

By Caroline Atkinson

Sterling fell sharply yesterday in currency markets that were busier than they have been for weeks. The dollar bounded up on the back of higher American interest rates and the promise of firm control of the money supply from Mr Paul Volcker, the Federal Reserve Board chairman.

The pound was one of the hardest hit currencies, losing 2.45 cents on the day against the dollar. It fell by 0.6 points on the trade-weighted index to finish at 72 1/2 per cent of its 1971 value. The lowest it has been since early this month.

Sterling has been riding high for most of this year. North Sea oil and high British interest rates have attracted a substan-

tial amount of money into London, but accelerating inflation, a yawning trade deficit and growing concern about the effects of the steel strike on the economy are now making people wary of holding too much sterling.

A general rise in the world interest rates triggered by credit tightening in America could reduce the attractiveness of the pound for international investors. This is now expected in the markets after yesterday's rises in American prime rates.

The Japanese yen was also much weaker against the dollar yesterday. Despite heavy support from the Bank of Japan in Tokyo overnight, the yen dropped by just over 1 per cent against the dollar in Japan.

Dealers reported very little movement in the yen in London and concluded that it was being held firmly by Japanese intervention. It closed down on the day at 244.9 yen to the dollar from 244.9 on Monday.

The German and Swiss currencies were weaker too. The dollar rose above 1.75 against the Deutsche mark at one point during the day. The London West German federal bank was thought to have been in the market selling dollars when the rate slipped below DM1.75, a reversal of the usual position.

By the end of the day the dollar had slipped back slightly on profit-taking, and it finished at DM1.7483, up from DM1.741 on Monday. The dollar rose against the Swiss franc 1.6381 and the French franc 4.076.

## Orient Overseas bid for Furness Withy hits snags

By Peter Wainwright

The £96.5m bid of 360p a share from Mr C. Y. Tung's Orient Overseas Corporation (Holdings), one of the world's largest shipowners, for Furness Withy seems to have run into problems.

Mr C. H. Tung, his son, said in London yesterday that he had twice held exploratory talks with Mr Brian Shaw, chairman

of Furness, and with fellow director Sir Ralph Bateman. It was understood that Mr Walter Salomon, Furness's merchant bankers, Rea Brothers, was also present. Rea has not disclosed the share stake it has in Furness, but it is thought to be between 10 and 20 per cent.

Mr Tung would not be drawn on whether the talks were pro-

gressing. He hoped to hold more conversations soon.

Orient has also been in touch with interests representing Mr Frank Marby, the Canadian shipping entrepreneur who directly and indirectly speaks for about 17 per cent of Furness.

Orient has sounded out the Office of Fair Trading as well. The latter is represented by the Monopolies Commission

from taking over Furness and its subsidiary Manchester Liners.

It is the understanding of Furness's partners in Overseas Containers (OCL) that on a change of control at Furness to fewer than five people, Furness would have to offer its 16 per cent stake to the others.

Ocean Transport, British & Commonwealth and P & O.

## Big demand for consumer goods as hedge against inflation rate of 116pc

### Coping with an Israeli pound in your pocket

A further landmark in the saga of Israel's runaway inflation was achieved this week with the disclosure that the Israeli pound is now officially worth less than one agorot was in September 1979, the date when the country's cost of living index first began to be measured. (100 agorot = £1 Israeli).

The depressing statistic emerged with the publication of the index for January which showed a rise of a further 7.3 per cent, despite the efforts of Mr Yigal Hurwitz the new finance minister to impose a firm grip on the economy during his first 100 days in office. The rise brought the official inflation rate to just over 116 per cent, although many economists are convinced that the true figure is closer to 150 per cent.

Whatsoever the method of calculation chosen, the need to cope with such a rapid rate of price rises has imposed strains on all sections of society. At the most violent level, it has been responsible for a revival of the "Black Panthers", a movement based among deprived oriental Jews living in the slums of Israel's big cities. The group was responsible for a spate of riots last year organized in protest against the Government's decision to remove subsidies from many basic foodstuffs.

The combination of rising prices and depreciating currency has encouraged efforts to secure credit at all costs, leading to a national habit of writing post-dated cheques and a high demand for consumer loans at interest rates over 50 per cent.

It has also encouraged a rash of inflation jokes. One of the most popular concerns a tourist who asks a Jerusalemite whether it is cheaper to travel by taxi or by bus. He is told firmly to take a taxi because the bus fare has to be paid straight away.

As well as posing the most serious threat to the chances of Mr Begin's coalition government being returned at the election due early next year, inflation is also the subject of endless private conversations. The fact that much of the population is cushioned against its worst effects by a generous system of index-linked wages, pensions, loans and insurance is by no means sufficient to stop it causing difficulties in almost every aspect of life.

Among the middle classes, the bulk of the sacrifices are

being made in the home. Many families have now sharply cut their consumption of meat, stopped visiting the cinema, reduced their use of the car and, perhaps hardest of all for a race renowned for its hospitality, cut down on home entertaining.

The ravages of hyperinflation have also encouraged buying in certain sectors of the economy, particularly luxury consumer goods which are seen as a good hedge. For months there has been a brisk and incongruous trade in colour television sets—although it is likely to be at least two more years before Israel gets its own colour TV service.

Christopher Walker  
in Jerusalem

### PRICE CHANGES

#### Rises

Burmah Oil 6p to 21 1/2p  
Esso 7p to 22p  
Hampson Gold 20p to 21 1/2p  
Jones (Ernest) 8p to 8 1/2p  
Marchwell 8p to 8 1/2p

#### Falls

Airfix Ind 1p to 19 1/2p  
Booker McCa 7p to 26p  
Change Wares 3p to 9p  
Cons Gold Fids 5p to 50 1/2p  
Fisons 8p to 24 1/2p

Massey-Ferguson 15p to 430p  
Pilkington Bros 8p to 22 1/2p  
Ulster 15p to 49 1/2p  
Wainwright Colliery 3p to 60p  
Western Mining 7p to 25 1/2p

Ford M 2p to 20p  
Furness Withy 12p to 36 1/2p  
Hewlett Packard 1p to 9p  
Middle West 2p to 51p  
Newman Ind 2p to 51p

### THE POUND

	Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
	buys	sells	buys	sells
Australia \$	2.12	2.05		
Austria Sch	30.10	28.50		
Belgium Fr	69.00	67.50		
Canada \$	71	70		
Denmark Kr	12.91	12.36		
Finland Mk	5.83	5.43		
France Fr	9.85	9.23		
Germany DM	92.00	85.00		
Great Br	11.60	11.00		
Hongkong \$	1.12	1.075		
Ireland Pd	194.00	185.00		
Italy Lit	583.00	558.00		
Japan Yen	4.58	4.35		
Netherlands Gld				

Bank of England's bank rate is 11.25 per cent. The bank is only supplying sterling to the Treasury and is not supplying sterling to the public. The bank is also supplying sterling to the public. The bank is also supplying sterling to the public.

**ERNEST JONES**

Results for the year ended  
29th September 1979

	1979 £000	1978 £000
TURNOVER (VAT inclusive)	9,002	7,026
TURNOVER (VAT exclusive)	7,938	6,285
PROFIT before TAXATION	1,618	1,272
PROFIT after TAXATION	1,595	1,269
EARNINGS per Share	31.9p	27.4p
DIVIDEND per Share (net)	7.5p	3.5p

**Points from the Chairman's Statement:**

- \* Group turnover increased by 26%
- \* Group profit increased by 27%
- \* 1-for-1 Scrip Issue proposed
- \* Trading during first quarter of current year was at a very high level

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained, on or after 27th February, from The Secretary.

**ERNEST JONES**  
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Shifal House, 1-7, Harwood Avenue, London NW1 6JD







BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Stronger medicine from the Fed

The United States Federal Reserve Board has at last reluctantly conceded what has been apparent to the money and bond markets for weeks. The package of last October was simply insufficient to slow the economy and halt the acceleration in the pace of American price inflation.

This is something in itself, but it is ominous that the response, now that the patient has failed to respond to one taste of the medicine, is merely to step up the dosage.

Financial markets will be deeply relieved that the Fed has kept its nerve in an election year by tightening up in apparently impressive fashion on money supply targets. It was clear from yesterday's market reactions, however, that there is no doubt about the price that will have to be paid if these laudable targets are to be achieved.

The Fed has now added its voice to those opposing credit ceilings and wage and price controls. The Administration, for its part, is still bent on what economists see as an excessively expansionist fiscal policy, forecast (officially) to produce a budget deficit of \$40,000m this year against \$27,700m last year. In short, the burden of slowing monetary growth and curbing inflation is devolving almost solely upon interest rates.

Any hopes there might have been of an early downturn in dollar rates have, accordingly, been shattered. Since last Friday's discount rate increase the bond markets, already in a state of collapse, have plummeted even further.

Short-term Eurodollar rates which a week ago were looking stable at around 14-14 1/2 per cent were up around 15 1/2 per cent last night and the United States prime rate has moved up to that level, too.

The only consolation for investors is that long-term bond rates are at last edging alongside the rate of United States inflation, but it is increasingly hard to see how equities can continue to ignore the plight of the fixed rate markets.

All this is, of course, equally depressing for the European markets, which are awaiting a drop in dollar rates before they can realistically expect any reduction in their own historically high rates.

Dunbee-Combex-Marx

### The game is over

After a good profits record before the setbacks of the past couple of years since going public in 1962, Dunbee-Combex-Marx has finally paid the penalty for over-extending itself by trying to become a major force in the world toy industry.

Following the breakdown of talks to sell its loss-making United States subsidiaries which it bought four years ago, the cash haemorrhage across the Atlantic has now become terminal and yesterday the group's major creditor Midland Bank put in a receiver to salvage what it could from the ashes.

The sheer scale of its United States liabilities, however, means that ordinary shareholders are unlikely to be left with anything at the end of the day. This is in spite of a profitable United Kingdom toy side which the receiver should have little trouble in finding a buyer for and the do-it-yourself division, which has been



Mr. Richard Beecham, joint managing director of Dunbee-Combex-Marx.

excluded from the receiver, where plans to float this off should bring in perhaps £6m.

The last balance sheet which is now a year out of date showed borrowings of £32m and a net worth of £23.5m or 102p a share. Since then shareholders' funds have been reduced by £5m following the first half loss and second half losses have been equally serious.

Dunbee's problems however are that much of the balance sheet is represented by the

United States assets but following the heavy losses in the United States liabilities are around \$12m higher and guarantees on its overseas creditors cannot be met.

At the moment the main uncertainty is the extent to which Dunbee guaranteed its overseas debt—only a quarter of the \$20m owed to Chemical Bank is thought to be covered for example—but in any liquidation stocks would be worth much less than they are presently valued in the balance sheet.

Newman Industries

### Questions of company law

Unless it is challenged on appeal, yesterday's decision in the High Court, in favour of Newman Industries, opens up all sorts of interesting possibilities. In the first place the Pru which over the past five years has battled the case on behalf of the rest of the shareholders, has established that, given the right factual circumstances and the money to pursue the matter, a class action can be brought in the English courts. So that opens up a new area of activity to disaffected shareholders of a company controlled by its directors. But there is much more to it than that.

In the second place, Mr Justice Vinelott's decision that, though the directors of Newman did not own a majority of the voting shares of the company, Messrs Bartlett and Laughton had de facto control—by virtue of personality and their entrenched position—and could therefore be sued by another on behalf of the company, really puts a completely new gloss on the risks and rewards of directors.

They are going to need indemnity insurance—though given that there will be few shareholders to pursue a matter with the means and the determination that the Pru has used on this one, the premiums should be reasonably low.

In the third, there is the interesting question of what effect the case will have on the institutions' penchant for voting with their feet. In this case the Pru took the other course, for which the rest of the shareholders in Newman ought to be duly grateful—though it appears that they are apt instead to reckon up the damages that the continuing scandal is doing to their shares.

In this case, however, it will be possible to put a figure on the damage done by the TPG affair. If it is a matter of managerial incompetence, rather than the issue of "tricky and misleading" circulars, the questions for the fund manager will be what they have always been: whether to stand and fight or sell the problem on to someone else.

Marchwiel

### Cushioned by cash

Civil engineering groups currently have nowhere to turn as public sector cutbacks bite ever more deeply at home and competition intensifies overseas. But at least the major groups, like Marchwiel, have the benefits of huge cash balances built up in better times to fall back on as the recession deepens.

Although turnover rose 27 per cent to £239m last year, largely reflecting new motorway contracts, the rewards from which have yet to be quantified, profits fell from £13.55m to £12.43m. And without the switch to SSAP 12 which reduced the depreciation charge the figure would have been only a shade above the group's forecast of £11m made at the interim stage.

Marchwiel was hard hit by last year's adverse winter weather, but now the problem is simply one of available work drying up at home, while overseas, with the exception of Portugal and South Africa, competition has driven prices below the level of viability for western groups.

To make matters worse, Marchwiel, as with other civil engineers, is finding it increasingly hard to wrest payment from financially-stretched local authorities for completed work.

Having come back a long way—the shares recovered 5p to 88p yesterday where they yield 9.7 per cent on the one fifth dividend increase and sell at just over five times fully-taxed earnings. At this level they lean heavily on cash holdings of perhaps £19m, or nearly 70p a share, which Marchwiel hopes to spend on diversification, and a net asset value of around 175p a share.

## Capital taxation: what chance of radical reform this time?

Adrienne Gleeson

Sir Geoffrey Howe's first budget was a great deal more radical than anyone would have forecast at the time of the general election. His second, which will be announced on March 26, is likely to be a great deal less so.

This is partly because the economy has responded sluggishly to Conservative efforts to regenerate it, and this has left the Government little room for manoeuvre. It may also be because the merits of stability and certainty, at least for those engaged in the management (and the taxation) of business, have been impressed on the minds of Conservative ministers.

At any rate the bulk of the tax provisions this time seem likely to be directed towards correcting anomalies—particularly the anomalies created by a high rate of inflation—rather than changing the weight or emphasis of the Government's take. In one area, capital taxes, the Government has already committed itself to change. But how much will it do in this Budget?

Both of the principal forms of capital taxation—capital gains tax (CGT) and capital transfer tax (CTT)—have long been targets of Tory wrath, the first because it is unjust, the second because it is wasteful. With the abolition of exchange controls, both of them are potentially ineffective, as well. The Chancellor has had a review of capital taxation conducted under the chairmanship of Lord Cockfield. The question now is whether this review will bear fruit of any significance next month.

In the City at least there have

been some strong hopes that capital gains tax would be abolished altogether. Its deficiencies are obvious enough and universally admitted, even to the point that the Inland Revenue produced a consultation document at the end of 1977, discussing how best they might be remedied. They hinge on the fact that, at a time of high inflation, all too often the capital gain that is being taxed is, in real terms, not a gain at all.

Of the remedies proposed, indexation of the gain itself or, more simply, of the asset on which the gain is made—is in principle the more just. It does, however, pose administrative difficulties, relating for instance to the allocation of cost and wasting assets.

### Costs

The solutions, in the Revenue's opinion, "would involve considerable complexity, resulting in increased staff costs for the Revenue and increased compliance costs for taxpayers." Since one of the objects of the review of capital taxation is to cut down on its cost and complexity, this one looks like a non-starter.

The alternative, development of some form of tapering relief, is the use of the Revenue's discretion (in, for instance, measuring the period of ownership), and has none of the merits of justice. It looks like the worst possible compromise, and can therefore almost certainly be ruled out as a product of the Conservatives' reforming zeal.

The arguments for the abolition of CGT really hinge on the fact that it is unjust in

itself, and apparently impossible to amend without recourse to further injustices, increased complexity or both. But however attractive the abolitionist solution appears in the City, its protagonists ignore a still more basic problem of equity.

If it is just to tax the proceeds of employment can it possibly be just not to tax the proceeds of investment? The Conservatives may be more likely than their political opponents, to recognize the value of the speculator in the market; but they are hardly likely to put him at such an advantage that they devalue the worth of honest toil.

In any case, the yield on CGT (from individuals) is likely to be in the region of £390m in this tax year, according to the *Financial Statement and Budget Report* (Red Book) estimates; and the Government cannot afford to stand on that for the sake of what would certainly be hailed as a charter for the wideboys.

There is rather the same problem in doing anything radical about capital transfer tax. Conservative philosophy would have it that this is a serious deterrent to the creation and encouragement of small businesses: hence the emotional appeal made earlier this week by Mr David Mitchell, the Under-Secretary of State for Industry, for "a return to that most human of incentives—the prospect of passing a family business to the next generation."

Whether small businesses in fact benefit from such an incentive is open to question: but the Conservatives have

made such a song and dance about the effects of CTT that it is not open to question that they will do something about it. However, abolition is out of the question on two grounds.

First, the tax will bring in some £360m this year (Red Book estimates); and second, the Conservatives themselves recognize the merits of dispersing wealth: "it is no part of our aims to encourage the concentration of the country's assets into fewer and fewer hands" (*The Right Approach*, 1976).

As a means of encouraging the dispersion of wealth, however, capital transfer tax is not all that efficient. It encourages a split between husband and wife, and early dispersion rather than an attempt to hang onto the money until the bitter end: but there are certainly better ways to encourage the wealthy to spread their wealth around.

### Transfers

Notable among these is an accessions tax, of the kind widely applied in continental Europe, under which the transfer of assets is taxed according to the wealth of the recipient rather than that of the donor. Whether the effects of such a tax would completely remove the emotional incentive provided by family succession, is also open to doubt; but as a long term aim of government policy it has plenty of attractions, not least among them the fact that such an announcement would

absolve the Government of any need to do anything radical in the meantime. Any more drastic change will probably have to wait on a change from taxing income to taxing expenditure. The thought alone is sufficient to cause the Inland Revenue, which has just been given authorization to computerize the PAYE system, to groan in horror. *Financial Statement and Budget Report 1979-80*, published by HMSO (£1.25 excluding post and packing).

## Greece hurries to put its house in order

Next January the Greeks will become full members of the European Community.

Mario Modiano examines the problems they must solve before then



Mr. George Kontogeorgis, Greek minister in charge of EEC affairs: "exceptional measures" to deal with inflation.

Athens

Inflation is seriously threatening Greece's good standing as the prospective tenth member of the European Economic Community. Within ten months it must before full membership on January 1, 1981, the Greek government has been forced to put restrictions on imports in an attempt to rescue the balance of payments from a runaway deficit.

Action to combat inflation is, perhaps, the most pressing of the many problems that the Greeks must tackle in the few months that remain before entry.

"We had to take exceptional measures," says Mr. George Kontogeorgis, the Greek minister in charge of EEC affairs, "because of the pressures of increased oil prices on our balance of payments. But they are temporary and other EEC countries have had recourse to similar measures before."

The restrictions include an extra deposit by importers of 75 per cent of the value of all non-essential imports, plus a 25 per cent consumer tax on the retail price of these goods. The special deposit remains in a frozen account at the Bank of Greece for six months.

The measures were a reaction to a sudden surge of inflationary pressures which pushed the consumer price index up to 24.8 per cent in 1979, twice the annual average rise in the four preceding years.

The crisis was due not only to soaring oil but also to a bout of over-consumption prompted by increased liquidity, and to speculative stockpiling by importers. By the end of the year the deficit on current account had doubled to nearly \$2,300m, forcing the government to borrow heavily abroad to close the gap.

The government is aware of the disadvantages of breaching into the Community at the end of this year riding on a high inflation rate. Its target, therefore, is to cut inflation back to 15 per cent.

But the prospect of paying an extra \$1,000m for oil this year is already making economists sceptical whether this target can be reached.

The search comes just as the main formalities for entry—the ratification of the Treaty of Accession of Greece by the nine permanent—were proceeding.

Five countries—Britain, France, Ireland, Germany and Italy, in that order—have already ratified the treaty. Three other member countries

are expected to complete formalities by mid-March at the latest. There is some delay in the case of the Netherlands, but the Greek government does not foresee any insoluble problems.

Perhaps the main headache for those who are making the preparations for entry is the poor quality of the Greek public administration. Will it be able to cope with the huge challenge of the country's rapid Europeanization?

"We do not expect miracles," Mr. Kontogeorgis says, "but we are using hard." A new law already passed by parliament authorizes government departments to disregard standing rules and to hire talented Greeks, preferably people trained abroad, to man key posts.

The British Council in Greece, along with equivalent institutions of other EEC countries, is helping Greece to give crash six-month courses to senior civil servants who are to have dealings with the Community. The aim is to help them brush up their foreign languages and teach them the Community jargon.

The opposition often criticizes the government for failing to keep the public informed about how entry is likely to affect their lives and work. Mr. Kontogeorgis says that the

government has a variety of information programmes on the EEC. These include week-long tours into Greece for heads of 33 provincial towns for executives of small businesses. "We expect to train some 1,000-1,200 of them very soon," Mr. Kontogeorgis says.

There are also television programmes, lectures, articles and pamphlets explaining how each category would be affected and what to do to minimize the inevitable hazards. Seminars are also being organized in areas which have particular interest in stake—for instance, in the islands of Lesbos, Chios and Corfu, where olive oil is produced.

One of the most arduous preparatory tasks has been the translation of 22,000 pages of the Community's secondary law into Greek—roughly 12 million words. This began two years ago. Greek will be one of the Community's languages and since Greece has accepted all the existing EEC legislation she has to be published in Greek in the Community's official gazette.

"The law has been translated in simple demotic Greek by teams of jurist-linguists," Mr. Kontogeorgis says. It is now being revised by teams of 30 judges and state legal counsel who have experience with actual practice."

Some 8,500 translated pages have already been submitted to the EEC and by the end of the month most of the work will have been handed over. The rest will be ready by the end of May.

In parallel with this effort the government decided to go ahead with the revision of Greek legislation to eliminate any conflict with Community law which has greater force, and to fill any gaps.

"The decrees needed for these adjustments are ready," the minister says. "We are re-checking them and hope that they will be promulgated by September so that they can come into force on January 1."

Beyond the procedural questions, some important problems of readjustment have to be tackled in the 18 months before entry. One of them is to prepare the ground for the free movement of capital and payments which must be fully in line with the Community's rules within the five-year grace period.

Already any EEC investor in Greece may bring in his capital freely, take out his profits or liquidate his investment and take his capital away. This facility was brought into force before entry so that foreign investors would not be inclined to wait until 1981.

The Bank of Greece is meanwhile making arrangements for the establishment of a foreign currency market in Athens, as well as for the drachma to be quoted in at least one EEC money market by next September.

Greek banks are already discussing how they will increase their competitiveness in anticipation of an influx of EEC banks, which will be coming in under equal terms. Fifteen foreign banks already

have branches in Greece where there are only 12 Greek commercial and investment banks, nine of them state-controlled.

One question the government will have to settle with the EEC before January 1 is the adjustment of Greek farm prices to those of the Community. The differences are not enormous, however, as inflation has already raised Greek prices.

Once they are established, the differences will be eliminated by five yearly instalments during the period of grace. For peace and tomatoes it will take seven years.

According to Mr. Kontogeorgis, estimates made in 1978 indicated that the consumer price index in Greece would rise by about 5 per cent during the five-year period as a result of these adjustments. This increase is likely to be lower because of the elimination of Greek state subsidies on meat and fertilizers in 1979.

Greece has been an associate member of the EEC since 1962 and during the course of this association import tariffs on EEC industrial products have been eliminated in the case of products not manufactured locally and reduced to 32 per cent for the rest. These will be wiped out gradually within the five-year grace period.

Association with the Community has brought Greek industries to face competition without protective trade barriers, so that entry should be smoother than it is likely to be for those candidates who start from scratch. It has given several industries time to adjust their production to a market not 10 million Greeks but 250 million Europeans.

What is causing some surprise to Community officials is that the Greek government has not so far prepared the detailed schemes needed to take advantage of Community financing in infrastructure projects. The Greek economy has suffered in recent years from a serious shortage of private investment. This is reflected in the slow growth of industrial production and it may gradually cause large-scale lay-offs, giving the country an unemployment problem for the first time in two decades.

Beginning next month, Greece will be taking part as an observer in the Community's management committees and ad hoc groups, which work out proposals and decisions for the ministerial council. This will give the Greeks a chance to express their opinion on these proposals at the preparatory stage.

By September the Greek ambassador to the EEC will sit in at the meetings of the Council of Permanent Representatives in readiness for the day, a few months later, when the Greek foreign minister will take his seat as an equal in the ministerial council, which will then be commonly known as the Council of Ten.

## Business Diary: Fire power • City's Cash flow

At 8.45 yesterday morning, the Pall Mall gun firm of Churchill, Atkin, Grant & Lang, took possession for an undisclosed fee of two shotguns it had made for the Duke of Windsor for £150 each in the 1950s.

Twenty minutes later they had found a buyer—the daughter of a Greek shipping owner who went away delighted with what she considered a bargain. She had paid £18,000 for the pair.

High-class shotguns can make a killing both on and off the moors today, which goes a long way towards explaining the plans of Churchill's owners, the Harris and Sheldon group, for their gun making business. Churchill's, where a gun will

cost you £9,000, will remain untouched. It will continue to produce 70 pieces a year in a market where its sole competitors are firms such as Purdey and Holland and Holland.

But the 146-year-old name of gun-makers W. & C. Scott will be revived in a new works in Birmingham which will produce custom-built guns costing between £1,800 and £2,300.

Former British pistol team captain, Pat Whitley, Scott's managing director, is looking for world sales of 200 in the first year out of a market of 5,000.

His sights are firmly set on America, where he reckons the guns will be appreciated as much as investments as sporting firearms.

● If the British Steel Corporation does manage to hook an American to take over from Sir Charles Villiers, it will be setting something of a precedent. I spoke to the CBI, the American Chamber of Commerce (United Kingdom) and the American Embassy yesterday in an attempt to glean the names of people who had crossed the Atlantic to rejuvenate industry in the old country.

"Does Vauxhall count?" was the best offer I had. And as it is part of General Motors it certainly does not. I fear BSC may not have an easy task.



"I have doctorates in psychology, business studies and English and I want to compose classical, uplifting commercials for the coming fourth TV channel."

● Ross Belch, the chief executive of Scott Lithgow, admitted to "a little personal sadness" when he officiated at his last launch from Scott's Carsburn yard on the Clyde yesterday.

Later this year, Belch will retire from Scott's, which is the oldest shipbuilding company in the world, dating back to 1711.

Yesterday saw the launch of the Myrmidon, the last of three multipurpose cargo liners being built by the company for the Ocean Transport and Trading Company of Liverpool.

● The best investment ever made by the City of London is starting to feel the pinch of inflation. Known quite simply as the City's cash, it is a fund that helps to pay for a number of the corporation of London's favourite amenities, from the City of London School to Billingsgate Fish Market and the upkeep of Epping Forest.

It originated in the 18th century when the corporation decided it would be a good idea to drain for building a section of land not far from Westminster. Today the area is known as Mavfairs and the City gleefully collects ground rent from part of Bond Street and Conduit Street, which, with income from property it owns in the City, last year added up to £24m for the fund.

That may sound a tidy sum, but last year the upkeep of Epping Forest alone cost £340,000, all of it coming from the fund, not the City rates.

The cash problem has so worried the Epping Forest Council "any Trust that it is organizing an evening to raise some of its own money for the upkeep of the forest."

Lord Miles, better known as Bernard Miles, founder of the Mermaid Theatre, will star in a dramatization of the handing over of the forest to the corporation, keeping in the City.

The City has rallied round to

support the £35-a-head evening at the Whitbread Brewery on March 3. Trafalgar House has donated a cruise as a prize and the Chase Manhattan Bank is sponsoring a competition to find the most suitable new music for a poem about Essex written by the Poet Laureate.

Among the trust patrons who are expected to attend are Sir Terence Beckett, chairman of Ford of Britain, Sir David Steel, chairman of BP, and Lord Chelmer, chairman of the Provident Financial Group.

London Transport has given a single decker bus to be presented to the London school which produces the best poster about the forest.

Terence Mallinson, the trust chairman, told me: "We have raised £56,000 in the last 18 months to make a local gesture of help because we realize that inflation is biting into the fund."

The secretarial revolt against boring and repetitious work is increasing. I was heartened to hear of the following exchange the other day. Would-be boss to potential employee: "So, you've got 10 years' experience working as a secretary?" Disgruntled reply: "No, I've got one year's experience 10 times over."

David Hewson

## THE BRUNNER INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED

Managers: KLEINWORT, BENSON LIMITED

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. T. B. H. Brunner, and summary of the results for the year ended 30th November, 1979.

Earnings and Dividend: Net income rose by 23.6 per cent to £815,192. Your Board recommends payment of a final dividend of 2.75p per share resulting in a total distribution of 4.90p per share (4.00p in 1978). The value of invested funds after deduction of prior charges at par and net current liabilities increased by 3.7 per cent to £21,882,248. Since the year and we have added to our investments in Japan and the Far East.

	1974	1978	1979
EARNINGS per Ordinary Stock Unit (Net)	2.61p	4.13p	5.10p
DIVIDEND per Ordinary Stock Unit (Net)	2.43p	4.00p	4.90p
NET ASSET VALUE per Ordinary Stock Unit	47.8p	131.9p	138.8p

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 20 Fenchurch Street, London EC3P 3DB on Friday 14th March 1980 at 12.45 p.m.



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Low turnover as optimists wait for rally

Dealers were in a fairly optimistic mood at the resumption of trading yesterday, in the hope that some sort of rally might take place following Monday's defensive performance. But they were disappointed, and prices were left to drift.

Market sentiment remained worried by the state of bad news which has kept buyers at bay recently, and which still shows no sign of abating. But despite the worsening steel situation, and bleak economic outlook, very little selling was encountered and turnover was described as low. Some observers still remain fairly confident about an upturn later in the week, in the belief that the "institutional" cash supply builds up some release must be provided and this may occur within the first bit of good news appears on the horizon.

So as before the stage was held by the speculative elements and specialist situations—as in the case of oil. The market was early buying was reported and was borne out by the index which opened 3.6 up. But this proved thin and when the follow through petered out jobbers went on the defensive and marked their prices lower.

Gifts made more of a spirited attempt to correct matters and tried to show some improvement on overnight levels. Unfortunately this came to an abrupt halt when Wall Street reopened easier, and was closely followed by the announcement that prime rates had risen to 15 1/2 per cent. This proved all too much for gifts, especially at the longer end where prices were rapidly marked lower. After earlier reporting rises of around 1 1/2 points eventually finished the day 1 1/2 lower. The effect at the short end of the market was less substantial with most closing at opening levels.

Wall Street also had an unsteady start, with equities which closed mostly at or near the bottom.

The FT Index, which was unchanged at 3 pm, went on to finish 1.2 off at 461.8. Leading industrials were mostly easier, where changed, although the exception to the rule proved to be Pilkington.

Against the trend, footwear maker Headlam, Sims & Coggins rose 2p to 45p. Even so they are still only that amount away from the 1975-80 low. Operators talk of developments, and recall the interim assurance that the group is placed to profit from any trading opportunities.

Bros, where a small amount of investment interest lifted the price to 228p, ICI, unchanged at 398p, was fairly firm ahead of next week's figures and hopes of 100 per cent scrip issue. But Fisons fell 5p to 28p, accompanied by Hawker 6p lower at 178p and Unilever 3p off at 455p. BAT

continued to recover gaining 2p to 238p after last week's nervousness when the price fell 20p in three days.

Furness Withy looked slightly unsteady, dropping 12p to 368p amid a weight of rumours over its recent approach from C. Y. Tung of Hongkong. The company was yesterday deep in talks with the chairman's son, Mr. C. H. Tung, although both sides were keeping tight lipped. Speculation also continued to bolster Stag Line 14p stronger at 180p, in a thin market, with some pundits claiming that Roger Holdings holding a near 30 per cent is about to bid for the rest.

Shares of Delson returned from suspension, leaping 21p to 52p on news of an agreed bid from McKeele Bros, 1p lower at 102p.

Speculative attention also focused on Wedgwood following its recent better-than-expected third-quarter profits announcement with the shares climbing 2p to 73p, while United Scientific was good for 10p at 483p after recent press comment.

Elsewhere on the bid front Polly Peck Holdings advanced 18p to 623p and the "A" 5p to 512p. Racial was unchanged at 216p but GEC firmed 1p to 383p. Among the other take-over candidates in the electricity sector, Ferranti held 4p at 494p, Plessey dipped 1p at 138p and Bessy shed 2p to 117p. Engineers remained fairly resilient to the worsening steel ground. The ordinary expanded 18p to 623p and the "A" 5p to 512p. Racial was unchanged at 216p but GEC firmed 1p to 383p. Among the other take-over candidates in the electricity sector, Ferranti held 4p at 494p, Plessey dipped 1p at 138p and Bessy shed 2p to 117p. Engineers remained fairly resilient to the worsening steel ground.

Fans of the Imperial group were chased away last year when the tobacco giant unveiled a bid for Harrower, which was an accomplished feat. But the shares are excellent 18-month value. They closed last night at 831p.

dispute, helped by some speculative interest, and buyers at the lower levels. Tubes rose 4p to 302p, Vickers 2p to 127p and Babcock International added a similar with an accompaniment of 10p. Rubbers took a pause in breath after recent hectic activity with Guthrie sliding 3p to 822p on profit taking with Killingham at 545p and London Samarra at 42p, both holdings firm. Only Padang Sedang, which was felt had been overlooked recently during the rise in the rubber price, had any improvement rising 18p to 125p.

Properties had a hammer session at 42p at 822p, Westminister & Country Properties advanced 4p to 41p.

Equity turnover on February 18, 1980 (14,501 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were: BAT, Lazard Freres, RTZ, Consolidated Gold Fields, Coats Patons.

## Drake &amp; Scull disappoints with 4pc profits rise

The directors point out that negative reserves in respect of shareholders funds and net current assets have now been eliminated and it is understood that the balance sheet will show cash of around £4m.

Since this year end approval has been given for a reduction in the nominal value of the group's shares from 25p to 1p. The group has also sold its agricultural interests in the Greffrars Cereals Ipswich, for £900,000, producing a surplus after expenses and taxation of £475,000.

The effect has been to push the group's reserves from a deficit of £5.1m into the black to £160,000.

At the attributable level profits have increased 41 per cent to £1.7m aided by the sale of property which contributed £283,000 after tax.

At present the group says it has £150m worth of work in hand and will not be affected by the steel strike, for at least two months.

By Our Financial Staff

Drake & Scull Holdings, the London-based engineers yesterday reported profits for the year to last October up 4 per cent to £2.6m. Turnover was 69 per cent ahead at £65.8m.

The board points out that profits would have been £300,000 higher but for the engineering strike last year. But the market registered disappointment as the shares edged 2 1/2p to 411p, despite a 37 per cent increase in the gross total dividend to 3.927p with a 2.142p final.

## Offshore group in option talks

In a bid to damp down speculation which sent the shares of Caledonian Offshore Services soaring almost 100p to 310p on Monday, the board said yesterday that it was negotiating with a major company over an option for a farm-in on one of its two North Sea leases.

The company's main asset is a 20 per cent interest in a North Sea licence consisting of part of Block 29/02.

Caledonian is conducting the negotiations with its co-venturer, licence holder, Placid Oil, but stressed that the exercise of the option would depend on a review of the existing seismic information.

If the deal is named major company, which it is believed could be Shell, which has adjoining acreage, or Occidental, finds the review sufficiently encouraging, it may drill a well on the block in 1981. The deal is being considered by Caledonian Offshore's interest being substantially reduced.

## Bid for H Norrington

By Rosemary Unsworth

Frederick H. Burgess, the agricultural engineer, ironmonger and fuel oil distributor, has made an £800,000 bid for Henry Norrington & Son, the Exeter and West Country-based agricultural business.

The agreed offer is on the basis of 21p cash or 21p nominal of a variable-rate loan guaranteed unsecured loan stock 1980/84 for each Norrington ordinary share. Burgess has secured 100 per cent acceptances totalling 34.8 per cent provided

no higher offer is made from the majority of the Norrington board which holds 1.3m shares. And Burgess, which acquired a recent 54 per cent holding at 21p, has an option to purchase an additional 15.1 per cent, already held 135,000 shares before dealings were suspended two weeks ago at 163p. Burgess's stake now represents 24 per cent.

One board member, Mr. Christopher Lewis, who owns an estimated 2,000 shares, has not recommended the offer.

## CI raises Armitage stake

Ceramics Investments, Armitage Shanks' major shareholder, increased its holding yesterday to 26.6 per cent by buying 200,000 shares at 101p. This is the value currently put on Armitage's shares by Blue Circle Industries' bid for the sanitary ware group.

The first closing date for the £35m offer is tomorrow, and the second is on Friday. Blue Circle may allow the offer to lapse if

the level of acceptances proves insufficient. Blue Circle, which has a 10 per cent stake in Armitage, has already said that the offer will go unconditional when acceptances top the 50 per cent mark.

Mr. John Round, Armitage's finance director, said yesterday that the number of acceptances for the offer from private shareholders was quite considerable.

## Options

Traded options spent another quiet day yesterday as the rest of the market continued to dwell in the doldrums. Total contracts rose only slightly from 398 to 498 although activity should improve today with the February expiry dates as most investors complete their "cabinet" deals. Markets & Spencer made the most impact with 152 deals completed although the two big mining financials were not far behind.

Traditional options had a better time of things with stores and oils providing most interest.

## Thermal Syndicate moves ahead

By Alison Mitchell

A return to more normal trading conditions lifted profits at high technology materials manufacturer Thermal Syndicate by almost a fifth.

In the year to October 31 the group turned in pretax profits of £1.4m against a previous £1.2m on turnover £2m higher at £12.6m.

However, the problems of the previous year, when the group was hit by the severe winter and the transport strike which disrupted delivery of raw materials, depressed the comparable figures.

Concealed within the pretax

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
	£m	£m	per share	per share	date	total
Construction (F)	0.17(0.18)	0.28(0.28)	20.8(22.1)	—	—	—
City Offices (F)	1.39(1.29)	1.39(1.29)	1.39(1.29)	1.7(0.79)	8/4	3.0(2.84)
Drake & Scull (F)	65(38.4)	2.6(1.5)	3.9(2.4)	1.5(1.0)	9/4	2.7(2.1)
F & C Eurotrust (I)	—	0.09(0.05)	0.7(0.2)	—	—	—
Amer Tel (F)	—	1.99(1.53)	4.3(3.32)	3.0(2.15)	24/4	4.2(3.15)
Ernest Jones (F)	9.0(7.0)	1.6(1.2)	1.6(1.2)	5(3.5)	3/4	7.5(5.5)
Marshall (F)	228(160)	3.6(2.6)	3.6(2.6)	1.6(1.2)	—	—
Meldrum Inv (F)	—	0.98(0.71)	3.3(2.32)	1.5(1.35)	9/4	3.0(2.1)
Norfolk Cap (F)	8.59(7.29)	3.77(3.32)	3.77(3.32)	7(0.61)	28/4	1.2(0.9)
Alert Inv (F)	—	8.14(6.3)	2.7(1.82)	1.8(1.35)	—	—
Oliver Paper (F)	5.4(4.36)	0.34(0.32)	2.38(1.95)	0.7(0.6)	—	—
Excalibur Jewel (I)	3.1(2.9)	0.47(0.39)	1.43(1.17)	0.56(0.39)	30/4	—
W Coast Tel (F)	12.54(10.55)	0.09(0.1)	1.78(1.82)	1.25(1.3)	8/4	1.25(1.3)
Thermal (F)	—	1.37(1.3)	1.37(1.3)	4.0(4.0)	—	—
W & Count Props (I)	0.7(0.58)	0.15(0.07)	2.89(1.01)	1.0(0.5)	30/4	—

figure is the surplus on the sale of "know-how" and plant contracts which amounted to only £70,000 in the year under review, against a previous £500,000.

Group managing director Dr. Gordon Hetherington reports that there are no further "know-how" profits in the pipeline. Although there will be some future contributions; the profit from this side is unlikely to reach the £100,000 level in the current year.

The German division turned last year's loss of around £70,000 into a profit for the period under review while the American business, which

## Bonus issue from jewellers

By Philip Robinson

Ernest Jones (Jewellers) the retailer which came to market nearly 20 months ago 85 times oversubscribed, reported a one-third increase in profits, more than doubled the total dividend and handed a one-for-one bonus share issue yesterday.

In its first full year as public company, to the end of September last, the group pushed pretax profits 27 per cent ahead to £1.6m and turnover, without VAT, went up from £6.2p to £7.9m.

Chairman Mr. Ernest Weinstein says that the current year has shown encouraging results with Christmas trading at a very high level, in spite of the fact that more people seemed to be selling jewelry for their precious metal content than buying it.

Jones shares jumped 22p to 127p, settled 20p higher on the day at 216p. Gross total dividend goes up from £2.2p to 10.71p with a 1.14p final.

Some of the group's increased profits have been aided by price increases. During that year the gold and silver prices climbed steadily.

Mr. Weinstein said: "It is our basic commodity, but we have balanced the price of our jewelry with the current price of gold and our stocks. To remain competitive the high cost of precious metals means that we may well reduce the content of metal in some of our pieces."

Excalibur Jewellery, at the manufacturing end of the trade, is pushing hard for sales during the current period, a slackening demand by offering incentives to retailers.

Price rises helped the Birmingham-based group lift profits 19 per cent to £3.1m, while turnover for the half year to the end of October rose £200,000 to £3.1m. Gross interim dividend is lifted from 0.42p to 0.79p.

## Slower growth rate in leasing business

By Adrienne Gleeson

Leasing business continues to expand very rapidly, although the rate of growth now appears to be slowing down. Figures published yesterday by the Equipment Leasing Association show that new business undertaken by members during 1979 amounted to £1,802m, a 48 per cent increase on the year before. In 1978 the increase was 67 per cent.

All sectors of the business expanded during 1979—even cars, despite withdrawal of the 100 per cent first-year allowances on cars on long-term leases in the last Budget. Total expenditure on assets leased to manufacturing industry rose by 56 per cent to £327m; expenditure on computers and office

equipment rose by 30 per cent to £315m; and that on commercial vehicles by 45 per cent to £225m.

After allowing for inflation, the volume increase in leasing business last year was just over 30 per cent. Mr. Tom Clark, chairman of the association, said yesterday that because demand was likely to be depressed, leasing companies did not expect expenditure on assets for manufacturing companies to rise by much this year in real terms.

Mr. Clark, managing director of National Westminster Bank, yesterday reported a 22 per cent increase in business to £627m in the year to end-September, 1979. Pre-tax profits rose by 61 per cent to £821,000.

## Business appointments

## New deputy director for Bankers Trust

Mr. Gerardo Soler has been elected assistant director of Bankers Trust International.

Mr. Soler, a 35-year-old Argentine, has been appointed to the board and to the chairmanship of the Antofagasta (Chile) and Bolivia Railway Companies in succession to Mr. G. S. Stone who has resigned.

Mr. Norman Crawford has joined Bankers Trust Properties as financial administrator/company secretary-designate.

Dr. Tony O'Reilly, president of the Irish Press, has been elected chairman of Independent Newspapers.

Mr. Ian Campbell has been made vice-chairman and Mr. Geoffrey Myers an executive member of the Board of British Railways Board and Mr. W. P. Bradshaw, chief operations manager, has been made director of strategic development in succession to Mr. Myers. Mr. M. J. Southgate, deputy general manager of the Southern Region, is appointed chief operations manager.

Mr. Keith Macdonald, formerly managing director of IPC Industrial Press, has become managing director of IPC Electrical-Electronic Press. Mr. Tony Smith, formerly managing director of industrial Press, has been appointed a partner of Quilter Hulton Goodson & Co.

Mr. Charles Lowe has been appointed director of Bank Street Bureau. He remains company secretary.

Mr. B. D. Blackwell, chief executive of the bank, has been appointed to the board of Braham Millar Group.

Mr. John Anthony Stubbs has been named regional director of Clarke, Holmes and Clarke Homes (Midlands).

Mr. Geoffrey Chouffot to be deputy chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority from April 1, succeeding Mr. Michael H. Vivian, who is retiring.

Mr. Henry Phillips, due to retire from the CAA board, will remain a member until October 31.

## MARCHWIEL LIMITED

Although the Group achieved a very substantial increase in turnover to a record level, I regret that the profit before tax has declined from £13.55 million to £12.43 million. Although an exceptionally low tax charge resulted in a substantial increase in earnings per share. The pre-tax figures are not strictly comparable as we have changed our rates of depreciation to comply with the new accounting rules. Without this, our profit for the year would have been some £2.4 million lower than last year at £11.13 million, i.e. slightly above the figure I estimated in my Interim Statement. There are a number of reasons for this disappointing result. At home a very poor and prolonged winter undoubtedly cost the Group a great deal of money and losses unfortunately continued on the large civil engineering contracts to which I referred last year. Overseas, outside Southern Africa and Portugal, our operations did not prosper.

On a number of public sector contracts there are significant sums of money outstanding which we have every expectation of recovering. Unfortunately, however, this type of contract is taking longer and longer to settle. The financial implications of delay are considerable since payments, when they are made, do not automatically include allowances for interest.

Unbeknown to Government, which dealt us a severe blow by its cuts in capital spending, has a duty to ensure that contractors are properly and quickly reimbursed for their public sector work.

At the year end shareholders funds stood at £58.5 million compared with £46.4 million last year and general liquid resources and short term investments remained at a high level. We are continually investigating opportunities for investing a substantial part of these in new activities which will expand the Group. During the year we were frustrated at being unable to bring one or two promising opportunities to fruition.

Nevertheless our activities outside heavy construction continue to make an increasingly significant contribution to profits. At the year end Mr. M. S. McVey, who had 40 years continuous service with the Group, retired from the Board. I am sure all shareholders will join me in thanking him for all he has done. I should also like to say my sincere thanks to my staff and work force who have once again performed outstandingly well in very difficult circumstances.

**Sir Alfred McAlpine & Son (Northern) Limited**

Very bad weather during the winter, which continued until the end of May, severely disrupted many contracts, but building work is currently proceeding at a satisfactory rate. General industrial building remains promising and the heavy civil engineering at the Dinorwic Power Station is going well. Despite the cut back in roadwork spending, we are at present actively engaged on seven motorway contracts and these will continue throughout the year. Whilst we are satisfied with the current work load, the availability of new work gives cause for concern, particularly in the roadwork and general civil engineering sections. Contractual recompense in respect of losses on completed contracts is being energetically pursued and substantial payments are eventually anticipated.

**Sir Alfred McAlpine & Son (Southern) Limited**

This company's turnover increased substantially, but profit margins declined due to severe losses in the civil engineering and housing sectors. The outstanding workload is reasonably satisfactory and evenly distributed between civil engineering and building, although public sector housing has declined. Detailed attention is being given to the settlement of our claims on the loss making public sector contracts.

**International**

Whilst there has been a small increase in the contracting turnover of Marchwiel Holding AG and its subsidiaries, the level is still insufficient to offset the very considerable expense involved in marketing a substantial overseas business. The Group's main activities continue to be centred on the Sudan where unfortunately significant losses are being incurred on one of the contracts. During the year good progress was made on newly awarded work on the Kenana project, and our

involvement with this major scheme is now drawing to an end. In Dubai, the Satwa Apartment Block for His Highness Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum, the Ruler, has been completed, but at present it is not proving possible to find further work at satisfactory margins. In general, the overseas payment position is now far better.

**Future Prospects**

Our domestic order book is not as strong as last year, but it is not unsatisfactory in the circumstances. The position in Portugal and South Africa is good. However, we are very short of forward orders elsewhere abroad. Frankly there are now too many contractors looking for the available work at home and overseas and thus difficult to find ahead for these unable to adapt. Also a number of large contractors from countries outside the EEC seem prepared to work abroad at prices which would involve western engineering contractors in severe losses. In the short term our own progress will depend on how successfully we can expand our operations into activities which are not dependent on traditional heavy civil engineering and building construction. Also important of course, is the speed with which we can persuade our clients in the public sector to reimburse us on the completed but as yet unsettled contracts.

We are most fortunate in having the management, work force and financial strength to adapt and weather the current problems, and I have no doubt that we will be as well placed as any of our competitors to take advantage of the situation when the present worldwide recession eases.

A. J. McAlpine, Chairman.

## GROUP PROFIT for the year ended 31st October, 1979

	1979 £000	1978 £000
Turnover	288,557	182,451
United Kingdom	28,325	25,093
Overseas	258,232	157,358
Profit before tax	12,090	12,595
United Kingdom (Note 1)	326	(41)
Overseas	12,426	12,554
Taxation (Note 2)	1,638	1,024
Profit before extraordinary items	10,784	8,530
Less extraordinary items	2,118	2,758
Minority interest	135	4
Profit attributable to shareholders	8,537	5,767
Dividends	2,389	1,792
Undistributed profit	6,148	3,975
Earnings per share after taxation	31.5p	19.2p
Dividends per share	9p	5p

- The Group has changed its depreciation policy to comply with SSAP 12. As a result the depreciation charge for the year has been reduced by £1,298,000.
- The taxation charge for the year has been affected by:
  - Stock appreciation relief for 1973 and 1974 amounting to £2.3 million has now been released as a result of the 1979 Finance Act.
  - It is estimated that capital allowances for the year amounting to £1.8 million are not required and have therefore not been provided.
  - Profits in certain overseas subsidiaries suffered tax at a low overall rate due to losses brought forward from previous years.
  - No relief is available for losses incurred by certain other overseas subsidiaries.
- A valuation of the Group's properties in the United Kingdom at 31st October, 1979 revealed a net surplus of £5,272 million. To comply with SSAP 6 individual deficits amounting to £518,000 have been charged to a revaluation reserve while surpluses totalling £5,790 million have been credited directly to reserves.

## The Sir Alfred McAlpine Group

## The US property market

## Still time to catch the boat

From New York

Back in 1975, with the city on the point of financial collapse, property was cheap in New York. But five years on, office buildings and shopping centres are selling on yields of 5 per cent, or in some cases less, and rentals have more than doubled to as much as \$25 in some prime Park Avenue sites.

At first glance, therefore, it looks as if the property investor has missed the boat. Yet United Kingdom pension funds are sufficiently interested in the United States real estate market to have invited Mr. Bowen (Buz) McCoy, head of Brooks Harvey, and one of the leading United States property advisers to address them at their conference in Exbury House today.

With the removal of exchange control, it seems certain that many will be persuaded to put some money where Mr. McCoy's mouth is.

Mr. McCoy, whose hobby is leading expeditions up Himalayan mountain peaks, has been on the United States property scene for more than 10 years, during which time Brooks Harvey—which is part of the Morgan Stanley Investment House—has carried off some of the most remarkable property deals seen here. It was his firm which arranged the financing and repurchase of the private Tishman empire in a staggering \$287m deal, and on an only slightly less impressive scale they arranged for the rebuilding of Madison Square Garden stadium, above the Penn Station railway tracks in New York.

The American property market is vast and diverse. It is virtually impossible for outsiders to find their way round it. Mr. McCoy says: "There is not just one market. Even if you concentrate just on the big cities, you will still find that there are

perhaps 20 different sub-markets and it can take years to learn your way round just one city, like Los Angeles."

Naturally he has a vested interest in stressing the need for expert advice, but without it you would never hear of the good properties until they had been snapped up by someone else.

He therefore thinks the best strategy is for a fund to develop an investment programme to run over five to 10 years, with a fixed but flexible sum allocated every year to build a diverse portfolio. Moreover, British institutions are rich enough to buy property beyond the pocket of many domestic American buyers.

Mr. McCoy thinks the United States market is changing fast. American pension funds are beginning to buy, as they have not done for perhaps 10 years. He expects them to be much more aggressive in the 1980s. Also, the way in which property development is financed is evolving. Traditionally, institutions would grant low-cost 30 year mortgages. High interest rates have ended this so Brooks Harvey is actively developing alternative packages which give the provider of funds an equity share in the building. In return for lower interest charges.

For the institution, having equity can be much more lucrative than providing a conventional mortgage. But again Mr. McCoy counsels caution. Overseas investors should get to know the market first before they rush into development. His ideal starting investment would be an office in a good location where the lease will have five to seven years to run. This would sell on a yield of between 4 and 6 per cent, but on reflecting in a few years the return could treble to around 15 per cent. In other

words, the best way to get a bargain is to take a long-term view in the first few years. Shopping developments are also far more attractive here than in Britain and frequently sell for the same yields as offices. The reason is that most rentals are linked to the turnover of the shop, and as this will increase in line with inflation, so too will the rental. The problem for the foreign buyer is that he will have to deal with a lot of local tenants rather than the large national organisations which typically take space in large office blocks. The same reasoning makes Mr. McCoy cool on industrial estates—it is not that they cannot be very profitable, but they require considerable local knowledge.

He is keen on hotels. Contrary to United Kingdom practice, many of the best-known hotel companies simply rent and manage the buildings. Institutions hold the freehold, as he says, they are easier to adjust for inflation "because you can always put up the room rate". His main view of warning though is for investors not to get too greedy in the market. The market is cyclical and "unless you are prepared to ride out the cycle you will buy dear and sell cheap". His other warning is to investigate the tax implications. He says United States investors to sell their property every 10 years or so to maximize their capital gains tax allowance, but that is not available necessarily to the foreign investor. Also, a proposed change in tax law could make foreign investors pay capital gains for the first time on real estate profits. If that law gets passed they might be better sticking to Wall Street stocks.

Anthony Hilton







## Appointments Vacant also on page 10

### LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

**ASSISTANT TO COMPANY SECRETARY**  
Nestlé, one of the world's major food manufacturers, has its U.K. subsidiaries head office in Croydon. U.K. turnover of Nestlé is over £200 million and there are a number of companies in the U.K. group. We are seeking someone experienced in company secretarial work to take up a challenging post.  
The successful applicant will have experience of company secretarial practice with a sizeable organization and could be a lawyer or a chartered secretary, or even a registered student with the Chartered Institute of Secretaries. Ability both to understand audited accounts and a knowledge of company law and to contribute in a number of other areas of the U.K. group's business, is of course essential. Generally, in addition to a knowledge of administrative practices, procedures and law, together with an absolute necessity for attention to detail, the job requires an ability to think problems through thoroughly.  
To find out more about the job and our range of company benefits ring:

Lynne Bennett, 01-886 2763, ext. 333.

### GENERAL VACANCIES

**Medium sized American computer company seeks one or more**

### EXPERIENCED PROGRAMMERS

to join their organization. Individuals will be relocated to the United States company's office and will get the opportunity to travel during their employment. A minimum of a two year contract will be required for acceptance. Applicants should have a minimum of two years of business data processing experience. Cobol programming experience is acceptable but experience with DBOL, POP-11, RSTS/C, RPL-11, CTS-200 or other DEC experience is a plus. All interviews will be conducted in London.  
Interested parties should reply in detail to Box 9544 F, The Times, and should include ALL experience, personal interests and other information that will assist us in making a decision. Company will respond promptly by mail upon receipt of resume.

### Consultant Gynaecologist

Required for a small private hospital in Lagos, Nigeria. 2 years' contract—renewable.  
Remuneration £15,000 per annum, plus 4 weeks annual leave plus accommodation.  
Please reply to Miss Lin Brohier, European Communications Ltd., 4a Welbeck Mansions, Inglewood Road, London NW5 or telephone 01-794 3847 9 am-6 pm, 01-848 3502 after 8.30 pm.

### DEAL WITH PEOPLE

**EC2 £6,000**  
As part of the largest U.K. Employment Agency Group specialising in accountancy staff, we urgently want to recruit a consultant (25-35) for our senior accountancy division.  
If you are a well educated, self motivated person, ideally with a background in accountancy and feel you can justifiably accept responsibility, rapid promotion and would enjoy the challenge of working in a vigorous, entrepreneurial and socially aware environment, please ring:

01-588 1031

ACCOUNTANCY PERSONNEL

62-64 MOORGATE, LONDON, EC2

### NO EXPERIENCE?

A London publishing group of three leading publishers is seeking a young, enthusiastic team player to join its editorial and production departments. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the editorial and production departments. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the editorial and production departments. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the editorial and production departments.

### PERSONNEL ADMIN—WITH CAREER PROSPECTS

Fast moving, multi-national company seeks a career-minded, energetic and motivated individual to join its personnel administration department. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the personnel administration department. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the personnel administration department.

### WEST COAST, SCOTLAND

Recently owned and run by a local family, this well established and hardworking business is looking for a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### USA CAMPING TOURS—London

USA Camping Tours, a leading travel agency, is seeking a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### A.O. LEVEL CHARTERS IN HANNOVER

A.O. Level Charters in Hannover is seeking a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### FRANCE—RESTAURANT, HOTEL, CAFE

France—Restaurant, Hotel, Cafe is seeking a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Public and Educational Appointments is seeking a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### RESEARCH SCIENTIST

Research Scientist is seeking a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### TRAINER TEACHER OF SHORTHAND

Trainer Teacher of Shorthand is seeking a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

## Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

### SECRETARIAL

### Promotions is exciting, hectic and rewarding

If you've got a great personality, plenty of initiative and good shorthand skills, you'll be the perfect Secretary for the Observer's Promotion Department. Here, you'll not only enjoy variety, but you'll become involved in our many special events and promotions. You'll be active, often acting as a hostess. Which promises a great deal of excitement. Of course there'll be pressure too, because this is one of our busiest departments. However, if you do have the right personal qualities and abilities to handle the work in a highly proficient manner, you'll have a lot to look forward to. £4,328 a year, for a start (salary increase pending) and many equally generous benefits.  
So if you have got what it takes—the ability to operate a small key and lamp unit, handle reader enquiries and undertake various secretarial and clerical duties, very efficiently and enjoy working for one of the most dynamic newspapers around. There's never a dull moment!  
Phone or write for an application form to: Miss Jan Knudsen, Personnel Department, The Observer, 8 St. Andrew's Hill, London, EC4V 5JA. Tel. 01-235 0202, ext. 225.

### THE OBSERVER

### BI-LINGUAL SECRETARY (WEST END)

Senior Partner of firm of Architects requires immediate personal secretary, bilingual in English and French. Salary by arrangement. 4 weeks holiday per year.  
Please apply in writing with curriculum vitae and stating experience to: LAW FRASER & DEVONSHIRE STREET, LONDON W1N 1PL. 01-877 4141.  
All replies to be marked Strictly Private and Confidential.

### PUBLISHING

Secretary wanted for young financial director of well-known book publishing company in W.1. Salary to £4,500. Please apply Heather Rogers 434 1684

### AUDIO RECEPTIONIST

For small friendly firm of Solicitors in Temple, London. Excellent salary preferred. Good conditions. Age 20+. £4,000 A.A.E. L.V.s. Please telephone 353 9417 for details.

### THE CONNOISSEUR MAGAZINE

needs a young SECRETARY/EDITORIAL ASSISTANT  
Ideal second job for someone interested in art and antiques with good shorthand, typing and willingness to be a general help in a small, busy team.

Ring Beverlie Flower on 439 0558

### GLOSSY MAGAZINE

publishing house needs a Junior Secretary for the Managing Director's office. Although routine typing, filing, mail and other office duties, the successful candidate will be expected to handle a variety of correspondence and to act as a general help in a small, busy team. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### SECRETARY Up to £4,940

Bright young person required as secretary to Chief Administrator of medical school. Good general education and no typing necessary. Pleasant, friendly, pleasant. Please apply to Mr. A. J. P. Smith, Cardiovascular Institute, Fulham Road, SW3 6HP or phone 302 8121. Ext. 4165.

### BROKING SECRETARY/ASSISTANT

Long established, well-known telephone company requires a Broking Secretary/Assistant. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### YOU DESERVE THE BEST SO LOOK FOR DRAKE PERSONNEL'S ADS IN THE PAPER ON MONDAY

THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE CO. Ltd. is looking for a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE CO. LTD.

is looking for a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

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is looking for a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### PART-TIME VACANCIES

### PART-TIME FUND RAISER

Required for newly created position in The Girl Guides Association, Britain's largest uniformed youth organisation. We need an imaginative, knowledgeable person, able to initiate a new approach to fund raising. Applicants should have established contacts and be able to show previous success in this field. Guiding knowledge is not essential as full back-up will be given. Three day week, preferably Tuesday to Thursday. Competitive remuneration, plus expenses. Apply in the first instance to Mrs A. Mansell, Tel: 01-824 6242, ext. 37.

### KNIGHTSBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL TRADING COMPANY

Part-time Secretary with/without shorthand, 3 days a week, hours to be negotiated. Salary around £2,500 + V.L.  
CALL JUDY TOMPSON ON: 01-581 1691

### ARCHITECTS require help with reception, a day or two a week. Part-time. See Secretarial today.

### TEMPING TIMES

£3.30 p.h.  
Discover for yourself the joys of working with the best temping agency in London. Speeds of 100/80, senior level experience and a pleasant personality are essential to maintain the high reputation this team has created.  
Ring 437 1126

### Car Driving Junior Secretary £4,500

If you are bright with good social and secretarial skills, drive, and are looking for a challenging job, then this friendly young company in Knightsbridge is certainly the answer.  
173 New Bond Street, W1Y 9PS

### SENIOR SECRETARIES

01-439 0082-01-439 5907

### BI LINGUAL

Secretary with fluent French and pharmaceutical background for senior post in Richmond, Surrey. Salary £4,500. Other posts receive Spanish, and shorthand, etc. For further details all at Papyrus (Emp. Ag.). 247 5242

### University of London SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS DEPARTMENT

SECRETARY/ASSISTANT IN THE RESEARCH SECTION  
This vacancy would suit someone with a background in research and statistics who has good shorthand and typing skills. The work involves the preparation of reports, collection of data and the preparation of data as well as secretarial duties. Salary to £4,500 per annum. Applications should be sent to: Miss J. P. Smith, Examinations Department, 60-72 Strand, London WC2R 2LU. Tel: 01-877 4141.

### P.A. REQUIRED

for Directors of Small Production and Theatre Companies. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

Required to run property on in the City. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### SPORTING SECRETARY £5,000

Leading Club in London seeks a Sporting Secretary. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### CANNON ST.—£5,500

Secretary for a well-known firm in Cannon Street. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### LIVERPOOL ST.—£5,500

Smart and well-spoken secretary for a well-known firm in Liverpool Street. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### CHALLENGERS—CHALLENGERS

The financial institution is looking for a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### CONFIDENTIAL Private Secretary

Required for a well-known firm. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### SEIZE AN OPPORTUNITY: President of the U.K. in the International

U.K. in the International is looking for a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### STYRE OIL LTD. is looking for a new owner

Styre Oil Ltd. is looking for a new owner. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### NO SHORTHAND. Enter

secretary for a well-known firm. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### KNIGHTSBRIDGE. Part-time Secretary

Required for a well-known firm in Knightsbridge. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

## La creme de la creme

### BALLY

#### A world of beautiful shoes

Group Marketing Director needs experienced secretary—probably 25+—to be based at our new West End offices. In addition to secretarial duties the job involves responsibility for the co-ordination of office administration and has scope for involvement and development in the areas of advertising and property management.  
Salary around £5,500 p.a., 4 weeks holiday, generous discount on Bally shoes.  
Telephone Kathy Walton on 580 3831 for further details

### JCR JANE CROSTHWAITE RECRUITMENT

24 Beauchamp Place, SW3 3LJ Tel: 581 2977

### SOMETHING IN THE CITY?

TO £5,500  
The Financial Controller of one of the city's top institutions requires someone aged around 21, ideally with 'A' levels and 18 months previous secretarial experience. Benefits include flexible, 4 weeks holiday, subsidised lunch, annual bonus and non contributory pension. Speeds 100/50.  
For further details, please contact Jane or Maggie.

### DESIGN FOR LIVING

£5,000 +  
Kensington Architects of repute are seeking a Secretary for a Partner. A busy but rewarding job involving site visits, publicity and presentation. First class education and good Secretarial skills. Age 20+.  
Phone Mrs. Byzantine 222 5091  
Norma Skemp Personnel Services  
14 Broadway, SW1

### SECRETARY TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

The Director General of the Sports Council requires a person of mature outlook with wide secretarial skills to act as his personal assistant. Starting salary £4,780 +, LV's, 41 weeks holiday per annum.  
Application forms and further details from Jan McEwan, 01-589 3411, ext. 235.

### SPORTS COUNCIL

### BRIGHT YOUNG SECRETARY (sh + soho) for charming

Surveyor of very friendly ECA Co. To £5,000. PULBROOK, W1. Young, outgoing and well educated shorthand secretary to assist Marketing Executive. To £5,000.  
OIL CO IN MAYFAIR. Working for President, receiving his many clients plus varied administrative duties. To £5,000.  
PR IN ADVERTISING. 2 lively young secretaries, 20+, for 2 busy young Directors in W.C1. A lot of client involvement. £5,000.

### BERKELEY APPOINTMENTS

161 New Bond Street, London, W1.  
Tel: 01-408 0444  
(Recruitment Consultants)

### £6,500 M.D.'S SECRETARY

The Managing Director of this major corporation shipping firm in EC1 is a dynamic, energetic and successful businessman. He is seeking a really efficient back-up and needs someone with excellent administrative and organisational skills. Your shorthand and typing must be excellent. You must be a good team player and have a good working relationship with the Managing Director. You must be a good team player and have a good working relationship with the Managing Director.

### RECEPTIONIST, Sutton, Surrey

with car. Real opportunity for a young, energetic and successful person to join a leading firm in Sutton, Surrey. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### CRONE CORKILL

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
01-439 7001  
44 Conduit Street, W1

### FIRST CLASS P.A.

For overworked, distinguished businessman in City who has been looking for a really efficient back-up and needs someone with excellent administrative and organisational skills. Your shorthand and typing must be excellent. You must be a good team player and have a good working relationship with the Managing Director. You must be a good team player and have a good working relationship with the Managing Director.

### Pathfinders

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
01-439 7001  
44 Conduit Street, W1

### PA/OFFICE MANAGER £5,000

Assisting the U.K. controller of an international computer design and manufacturing company. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### Career into Oil £5,000+

Vice President of International Oil Co. in W1 needs a really efficient back-up and needs someone with excellent administrative and organisational skills. Your shorthand and typing must be excellent. You must be a good team player and have a good working relationship with the Managing Director. You must be a good team player and have a good working relationship with the Managing Director.

### PERSONAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY

Required by Director of disabled sports organisation. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### REMEMBER NAMES AND FACES £5,000 PLUS

Contracting firm in W1 needs a really efficient back-up and needs someone with excellent administrative and organisational skills. Your shorthand and typing must be excellent. You must be a good team player and have a good working relationship with the Managing Director. You must be a good team player and have a good working relationship with the Managing Director.

### Bernadette of Bond St.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
01-439 7001  
44 Conduit Street, W1

### NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions in the back of the Times Newspaper Limited, copies of which are available on request.

### SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT

#### required to work for the Deputy

Chief Accountant of a busy medico-legal organisation. Apart from the normal skills, accuracy and a methodical approach to work are essential responsibilities and to demonstrate a flexible approach to the work. Previous experience in the accountancy field an advantage. Age 25-30. Salary on scale £5,000-£5,500 (inclusive of £700 London Weighting). Four weeks holiday, excellent pension scheme, LV's, season ticket, etc.  
Applications to: Mrs. B. Andrews, The Medical Defence Union, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0EA. For further details telephone 01-486 6181.

### P.A. ADMINISTRATOR

#### ADVERTISING

£6,000 NEG.

A thriving advertising agency with offices in S.W.1 needs a P.A./Administrator to assist a senior director in establishing and developing a new department handling overseas business. This is a real opportunity to get involved at a senior level, undertaking market research, making initial contact with prospective clients, setting up systems and arranging travel. The position offers a challenge to a mature experienced person with a good knowledge of advertising and a flexible attitude. The preferred age range is 27 to 35 years of age. Salary is negotiable around £6,000. For further details call See Phelps on 01-580 3336.

### MANAGING DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

Secretary/Audio/Shorthand Typist required for busy offices located near Ears Court and West Bromington Underground Stations. Duties varied and non-routine, call for mental alertness, involvement and a flexible attitude. Hours: 9.00 am-5.30 pm Monday to Friday. Salary in excess of current earnings. Apply: Peggy Lawrenson—370 4323.

### SECRETARY

£5,500 +

Deputy Director of well known Int. Co. in W1 seeks self motivated Secretary/Personnel Assistant with good organisational ability. Working hours 9.00 am-5.30 pm Monday to Friday. Salary in excess of current earnings. Apply: Peggy Lawrenson—370 4323.

### SECRETARY

£5,500 +

Deputy Director of well known Int. Co. in W1 seeks self motivated Secretary/Personnel Assistant with good organisational ability. Working hours 9.00 am-5.30 pm Monday to Friday. Salary in excess of current earnings. Apply: Peggy Lawrenson—370 4323.

### BOND STREET

£5,000 neg.

The group company secretary of a major holding company with a wide range of interests needs a P.A./Secretary to second with a leading firm in the City. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### FRANKFURT

£9,000 +

Audio Secretary required with experience in Banking. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### ANGELA MORTIMER LTD.

Recruitment Consultants  
166 Piccadilly, London, W1  
01-628 9626

### NUMERATE GRADUATE/PA sought

by a consultant within large City group. Wide duties—learning about specialised investment—much liaison work at high level, processing of work plus the full secretarial role and very real opportunity to progress onwards to consultant in time. Audio essential. Commencing salary £5,000. Monica Grove Recruitment Consultants, Tel. 01-379 1082.

### HOLLAND PARK TO £7,000

Previous experience in the City is essential. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### PERSONAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY

Required by Director of disabled sports organisation. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the business.

### REMEMBER NAMES AND FACES £5,000 PLUS

Contracting firm in W1 needs a really efficient back-up and needs someone with excellent administrative and organisational skills. Your shorthand and typing must be excellent. You must be a good team player and have a good working relationship with the Managing Director. You must be a good team player and have a good working relationship with the Managing Director.

### Bernadette of Bond St.

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### CRONE CORKILL

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
01-439 7001  
44 Conduit Street, W1



# Greene Greene

## -Managerial-Administrative-Secretarial-Personal Assistants-

### MAYFAIR P.A.

£5,500

First class PA/Secretary with short-hand and audio is needed by the conveying partner of a very small practice. True PA position. Phone Nanci Griffiths on 439 9351.

### ADMINISTRATIVE ROLE

£5,500 + 4 WKS. HOLS. + GOOD PERKS

This Cannon Street based partner believes in delegating to his secretary, hence there will be office administration involved with your legal work. Previous legal experience essential. Ideal age, 23-37. Phone Judith Brooks on 242 1802.

**APPOINTMENTS**  
STAFF CONSULTANTS: 439 9351/242 1802

### CITY LITIGATION

£5,000 + BONUS

Smallish firm near Liverpool Street station need an experienced audio secretary to work for a young litigation solicitor. Prefer someone wanting more than just a typing job. Phone Nanci Griffiths on 439 9351.

### NO HASSLE CONVEYANCING

£5,400 + USUAL PERKS

This is a straightforward, no hassle, job which will keep you occupied but not preoccupied working for a partner in modern offices. Electric typewriter, two salary reviews. Phone Judith Brooks on 242 1802.

## Elizabeth Hunt

### FLUENT FRENCH AND SPANISH

£5,500

The language ability constantly as Sec. PA in a director closely connected with the music industry. This position involves a great deal of VIP contact and needs the kind of person able to set up regular coverage travel, run an office and work on own initiative. Good English, sec. skills and French shorthand needed.

### IN THE CITY

£5,750

City based, consumer company seek a PA/Secretary at senior level to take charge of day to day office. Your responsibilities will be to manage the office, handle correspondence, and to handle a variety of administrative tasks. You'll have good working conditions, excellent benefits, and a salary of £5,750 p.a. with a £1,000 bonus. French shorthand and typing skills essential. Good English, sec. skills and French shorthand needed.

### IT MUST BE MAYFAIR

£5,250

If this is your first or second job then this prestigious firm of lawyers is looking for a PA/Secretary. You will be handling a variety of administrative tasks, including correspondence, typing, and filing. You will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office. Good English, sec. skills and French shorthand needed.

### CITY AD AGENCY

£5,500

Senior Secretary/office administrator for busy ad agency. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, handling correspondence, and to handle a variety of administrative tasks. Good English, sec. skills and French shorthand needed.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants  
18 Grosvenor Street London W1 Telephone 01-499 2921

### JAYGAR EXCLUSIVE

POLITICS c. £5,500

Tony M.P. needs an intelligent, energetic P.A. Audio Sec.

NEWSPAPERS c. £5,500

Initiative and good skills plus the ability to cope with own projects.

OIL £5,500

Executive Sec. to run small Mayfair office.

MARKETING £5,000

Exec. potential plus secretarial skills for small expanding promotions co.

Open tonight until 6.30 p.m.

55a Sloane Square London SW1

01-730 5148

JAYGAR PERSONNEL LTD

### PER executive secretaries

### HESTON MIDD. AUDIO/P.A.

If you are a cheerful, efficient excovert with a mature personality who can cope when your M.D. is on his travels, and liaise at all levels from shop floor to chairman, this will be the ideal job. There is plenty of client contact and variety. Short-hand not required. 22 days' holiday and stats. Pension Scheme. Sub. Canteen. Car Park. Own office. Standing salary £5,000.

Contact: Dawn Shafer 01-235 9984

### ST. JAMES SQUARE

The director of an internationally renowned consultancy would appreciate a bright intelligent secretary to add to his young and enthusiastic team. The work is tremendously interesting and each year there is the opportunity to be involved in the company conference held bi-annually abroad. A pleasant personality, able to cope with a great deal of client contact. If you have German there would be chances to use it. L.V. 50p daily. Hours 9-5. Beautiful offices.

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Efficient PA/Secretary, probably in the 20s in required for the managing director and financial controller of an international group. (Financial accounts delegated to typist). Varied work. Bus pick-up, if required, from Neasden or Stonebridge Park. Own Office. Staff Canteen. Car Park.

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You will be involved in the full range of secretarial duties including confidential correspondence and liaison with other sections of the company both at home and abroad.

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An experienced Secretary, aged 25+, is required by the Financial Times Newspaper to work for the Foreign News Editor and a team of journalists specialising in an international news coverage. Short-hand and typing speeds 100/50 w.p.m. essential together with good organisational skills and the ability to work under pressure. Hours 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Salary in the region of £5,000 per annum. 4 weeks' holiday. Subsidised restaurant.

Please telephone Susan Smith on 236 9758 for an application form or write to Personnel Department, Financial Times Ltd., Bracken House, 10 Cannon Street, London EC4A 3DF.

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Salary c. £6,000 plus excellent benefits.

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Telephone No. 01-377 0020, ext. 162.

### French Week

FRENCH. This week is French week at International Secretaries, so if you are a Secretary with English short-hand and good French and are looking for a new job, call Caroline Raby, International Secretaries 491 7188.

### International Secretaries

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Join a small friendly office as a secretary in a rapidly expanding retail wine outlet chain. You won't just be chained to the typewriter—there's responsibility and a salary of £5,000 for the right applicant who will be over 21. Wembley based.

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## PERSONAL CHOICE

Edna O'Brien in the ATV film *The Hard Way* (ITV, 8.00)

● The cinema has much to answer for. Take the Pathans. Countless epics about the North-West Frontier have shown them sweeping down the mountain sides, teeth flashing in sadistic gleam, mindless killers, their savagery unprovoked. Tonight's documentary *The Pathans* (ITV, 10.30) does not whitewash them, but it does go a long way towards explaining what it is that makes the Pathans so formidable a fighter. We are told that he is ignited by his religion, Islam, and the powerful code of conduct called Pukhtunwali, both of which demand high standards of bravery and loyalty and honour. Anyone outside the code is marked out as a legitimate target for attack. The Soviet troops now inside Afghanistan are learning this lesson the hard way, which is why André Singer's film has such a high degree of topicality.

● Open Secret (BBC 1, 9.25) is another of those watchdog warnings which television can utter so dramatically. Peter Williams is the human pycnophile in this new series: I well remember the impressive investigative work he did when he worked for Thames Television's *This Week*. Tonight his subject is those substances many people are in daily contact with at work, which could be dangerous and even prove lethal. He considers the case of five American women, working in a lead factory, who elected to be sterilized rather than lose their jobs, and he interviews Dr Ioana Lăcrășan, a Romanian scientist, who has caused something of a furore with her study of how the male reproductive system can be seriously affected by exposure to the same metal.

● *The Hard Way* (ITV, 8.00) is about an Irish assassin (Patrick McGeehan) who tries to kill. I found myself sharing his feelings as I watched this slowly unfolding drama with its high mortality rate. It cannot, however, be dismissed as a film completely without significance. It does contain the first acting performance by Edna O'Brien, the writer, who plays Mr McGeehan's estranged wife. She paces to and fro in what looks like a church crypt, walks round street corners and finally through a cemetery. Muted tonally and in emotional expression, she addresses the camera at widely spaced intervals. I hesitate, therefore, to predict whether her eventual fame as an actress will equal her success as a writer.

● My first encounter with digital recording on BBC radio was last Christmas Eve, in the transmission of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols from King's College, Cambridge. I did not really understand the technique then, and I'm not sure I do now. All I know is that there was a clarity of sound from King's that I don't remember having heard on radio before. If you want to discover for yourself what the digital converter can do for recorded music, listen to tonight's violin and piano recital by Gidon and Elean Kremer on Radio 3 at 10.55.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: (STEREO); (BLACK AND WHITE); (V) REPEAT.

## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: The Mackenzie Pile; 7.05 The Baroque Organ; 7.55 Writing History. Close-down at 7.55.  
9.05 For Schools. College: Engineering (joining, welding); 9.35 Exploring Science; 9.58 Let's Go (for mentally handicapped); 10.12 Words and Pictures; 10.30 Home Economics (animal foods); 11.02 Science All Around (bottles).  
11.25 You and Me (a 10 p.m.).  
11.40 Schools. College: History (the Country of the Setting Sun); 12.05 pm Russian Language and People: part 6. Close-down at 12.30.  
12.45 News and weather.  
1.00 Peppie Mill at One: Includes an interview on Indian cooking, by Lalita Ahmed. Also, Geoffrey Partridge on the energy crisis.  
1.45 Playboard: Puppet show.  
2.01 Schools. College: Watch (boardbuilding); 2.15 Near and Far; 2.40 Communicate 1 (inside radio). Close-down at 3.00.

## BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: Personality and Learning; 7.05 Ecology; 7.30 Animal Kingdom. Close-down at 7.55.  
10.20 Gharbar: For Asian viewers. Health matters. Close-down at 10.45.  
11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1.  
3.55 Close-down at 11.35.  
4.50 pm Open University: Genetics.  
5.15 Stereochemistry.  
5.40 Laurel and Hardy: Private Life of Oliver Heighly (1934). Oliver dreams that he is to become a rich widow's next victim. Mae Busch plays the much-married lady.  
6.05 The Paul Daniels Magic Show.

3.25 Children's Wardrobe: making a classic dress. With Ann Ladbury.  
3.55 Play School: Joanne Cole's story The Camel's House.  
4.20 The Backyard: A Czechoslovakian cartoon.  
4.25 Jackson: Prunella Scales continues reading Bogwopple, by Ursula Moray Williams.  
4.40 Take Hart: Tony Hart uses coloured water to paint some pictures. 5.00 John Craven's Newsround.  
5.10 God's Wonderful Railway: Serial about an old GWR branch line, set in 1906.  
5.45 News with Richard Whitmore. 5.55 Nationwide.  
6.55 Olympic Grandstand: The 3,000 metres Ladies' Speed Skating and the Ladies' Giant Slalom. Also, the Ice Dance championship, with much British interest in Jane Torvill and Christopher Dean.  
8.25 The Two Ronnies: Second showing of this comedy show starring Ronnie Barker and Ronnie Corbett.  
9.00 News: with Kenneth Kendall.

Already seen on BBC 1, this series opens with the old three-act trick. We also see the Morris, who are sharpshooters, a juggler, some archers, and a puppeteer, Albrecht Roser.  
6.40 The Master Game: Sixth game in the chess tournament. Walter Browne of the United States, plays John Nunn, of Great Britain.  
7.10 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.  
7.20 Mr Smith's Lido: Garden: How to make a bottle garden. With Geoffrey Smith.  
7.45 Arena: Six Days in September. Coinciding with the opening of the abstract art exhibition at the Tate Gallery, a repeated showing of this documentary about the painter John Hoyland.

9.25 Open Secret: For \$7 an hour: New series of investigative reports by Peter Williams. The five American women who chose to be sterilized rather than lose their jobs in the lead industry (see Personal Choice).  
9.55 Sportsnight: A recording of last night's fight between Jimmy Flint and Pat Cowdell for the featherweight championship of Great Britain. Also ice hockey, the Winter Olympics: Czechoslovakia vs Sweden. News headlines at 11.00.  
11.02 Parkinson: with Shirley Williams, the former education secretary; Dr A. L. Rowse and Isla St Clair.

## Regions

REG VARIATIONS: Wales: 11.02 am News. 11.10 am News. 11.25 am News. 11.30 am News. 11.40 am News. 11.50 am News. 12.00 am News. 12.10 am News. 12.20 am News. 12.30 am News. 12.40 am News. 12.50 am News. 1.00 am News. 1.10 am News. 1.20 am News. 1.30 am News. 1.40 am News. 1.50 am News. 2.00 am News. 2.10 am News. 2.20 am News. 2.30 am News. 2.40 am News. 2.50 am News. 3.00 am News. 3.10 am News. 3.20 am News. 3.30 am News. 3.40 am News. 3.50 am News. 4.00 am News. 4.10 am News. 4.20 am News. 4.30 am News. 4.40 am News. 4.50 am News. 5.00 am News. 5.10 am News. 5.20 am News. 5.30 am News. 5.40 am News. 5.50 am News. 6.00 am News. 6.10 am News. 6.20 am News. 6.30 am News. 6.40 am News. 6.50 am News. 7.00 am News. 7.10 am News. 7.20 am News. 7.30 am News. 7.40 am News. 7.50 am News. 8.00 am News. 8.10 am News. 8.20 am News. 8.30 am News. 8.40 am News. 8.50 am News. 9.00 am News. 9.10 am News. 9.20 am News. 9.30 am News. 9.40 am News. 9.50 am News. 10.00 am News. 10.10 am News. 10.20 am 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